

# The Middlebury Campus

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Since 1905

## Smith pushes most of agenda to spring

By Hilary Hall  
STAFF WRITER

Last April in a tight election, College students elected Bobby Joe Smith '09 as the Student Government Association's (SGA) president for the 2008-2009 school year. Voters responded to the three platforms he called his most important: communication between the SGA and the community, the development of an Africana Studies department and the introduction of a multi-purpose access card. Yet the past semester — Smith's first as leader — has been a challenging one for the College, with budget shortcomings putting strains on the administration and announcements of upcoming changes to life at Middlebury angering some in the community. Smith, though, said that the SGA has much to be proud of despite the economic hurdles it faces.

"The budget and economic crisis certainly made us approach things much differently than we had initially intended," Smith said, "and made us shift our focus as to what is most important and what can be reasonably implemented this year, but I also like to think of this moment as an opportunity rather than a hindrance."

Smith believes that it will be the SGA's duty to prove that its initiatives are a "worthwhile investment," despite the College's financial trials.

This positive determination is

what several SGA members called Smith's most valuable quality as a leader.

"His unfailing desire to work for the betterment of the student body here at Middlebury has been a mainstay since day one," said David Peduto '11, one of the sophomore senators.

Becky Harper '11, Chair of Diversity and Cabinet Member of SGA, echoed Peduto, saying, "He is truly dedicated to what he is doing."

Several SGA members noted the subsidy of Addison County Transit Resources (ACTR) fares as a great accomplishment from the past semester, yet most of the goals that

SEE STUDENTS, PAGE 4



Andrew Ngeow, Photo Editor

### OTTER NONSENSE GIVES STUDENTS SOMETHING TO SMILE ABOUT

The Otter Nonsense players helped break in the newly completed McCullough Social Space and brought laughter back into the lives of students suffering from second-week-of-class woes with their Feb. 17 show.

## Power Shift draws record participation

By Kelly Janis  
NEWS EDITOR

With 184 students signed up as of Monday, the College has registered more participants for the second annual Power Shift Youth Climate Conference than any other institution in the nation.

"The organizers of the conference are really impressed with us, which is an amazing feeling," said Ben Wessel '11, one of several Sunday Night Group (SNG) members integral in bringing students to the event, which will be held from Feb. 27 to March 2 in Washington, D.C.

"Being the climate-y loser I am, they're the people I look up to."

The conference is expected to bring over 10,000 young people to the nation's capital to lobby members of Congress to pass comprehensive energy and climate legislation, and will feature appearances by Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi, several mayors and congressmen, activists Van Jones and Majora Carter and musical guests Santagold and The Roots.

Late last week, planning for the trip hit an unexpected snag when the Center for Campus Activities

and Leadership (CCAL) reminded SNG of a rule implemented last year restricting College-reimbursed travel outside of a 300-mile radius. As a result, the group will not be able to take as many personal vehicles as previously anticipated,

and must charter an additional bus. This will double the expected cost of the trip to approximately \$18,000. To help cope with the increase, participating students are

SEE SNG, PAGE 4

## Crisis fails to deter student spending

By Adam Schaffer  
STAFF WRITER

Students' spending on campus has proved resilient in the face of the College's financial woes and the national economic recession. However, overall changes in the spending habits of the College community have forced the managers of the Grille and Juice Bar to alter hours and menu options to cut costs and increase profits.

According to General Manager of General Dining Operations Steven Reigle, the Grille and Juice Bar have been holding strong, but are beginning to show some decreases in revenue. Reigle credits the recent decreases in revenue not to an upswing in the student body's frugality, but in the changing spending habits of the adult members of the College community.

"Sales to students have continued to be strong while sales to faculty and staff have shown more variability," he wrote in an e-mail.

Despite this, Reigle said that the Grille and Juice Bar have seen an increase in overall sales but a 6.6 percent decrease in overall revenues compared to last year's Winter Term.

Alex Lin-Moore '12 says that the economy has not altered his spending at the Grille and Juice Bar.

"I would say that my behavior hasn't changed, but it was always really conservative so I didn't have to

change it," Lin-Moore said. However, had he not been conscious of his spending to start with, he explained, he most likely would have been forced to reduce it.

Ticket sales to on-campus arts events have remained surprisingly high, according to Liza Lloyd Sacheli, marketing manager for the Kevin P. Mahaney Center '84 for the Arts.

"Student tickets are actually up — but we think that may have to do with the popularity of several arts events this fall, rather than economic factors," she wrote in an e-mail. Sacheli added that most audiences have



Mike Bayersdorfer

included more students, faculty and staff rather than people unaffiliated with the College, Sacheli explained.

The Box Office claims that it has no plans to increase student ticket prices.

"Regardless of what changes may come, we are committed to keeping arts events as accessible as

SEE BOX OFFICE, PAGE 2

## Future of 51 Main in flux



Andrew Ngeow, Photo Editor

51 Main, the College's downtown retail venture, will continue to function.

By Stephanie Joyce  
STAFF WRITER

Money concerns can strain even the healthiest of relationships and the relationship between the town and the College has never been tension-free. When the College opened 51 Main at the Bridge last year, it took an unprecedented step toward competing with local business and potentially angering the owners of several downtown establishments. In order to avoid conflict, the College decided to only open the space on weekends and for limited hours. The current financial crisis, however, has called into ques-

tion the wisdom of this decision, prompting changes to which some local businesses are opposed.

Starting in February, 51 Main will be expanding its business hours and menu in order to attract customers and generate more revenue. In addition to the evening bar/lounge aspect, 51 Main will be opening earlier to serve coffee and cupcakes and may expand lunch and dinner menus. Acting Provost Tim Spears explained this transition as the need to "fish or cut bait," suggesting that "[the College] is not in a position financially to sustain [51 Main] as it is currently consti-

tuted."

John Melanson, owner of Carol's Hungry Mind Café, is explicitly opposed to the change.

"Maybe it won't hurt me," said Melanson, "but I'm not willing to take that chance."

Carol's has faced financial difficulty since opening in 2005, and according to Melanson, "even a little bit [of competition] would hurt me, especially during the tourist season."

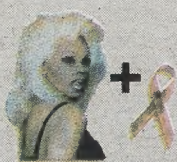
By contrast, Holmes Jacobs, co-owner of Two Brothers Tavern, made clear at a Jan. 20 open meeting about 51 Main's future that his business was not threatened by the College's venture. In fact, Jacobs welcomed the College's investment in 51 Main, explaining that "another business would be more competition."

We respect the fact that the College has taken strides to understand what our programming is and not step on our toes," he said.

According to Director of Business Services Tom Corbin, this type of restraint on the part of the College is the central problem with 51 Main.

SEE 51 MAIN, PAGE 3

this week



**Winter is a Drag ... Ball.**  
The Vermont People With AIDS Coalition hosts unique fundraiser, page 5.

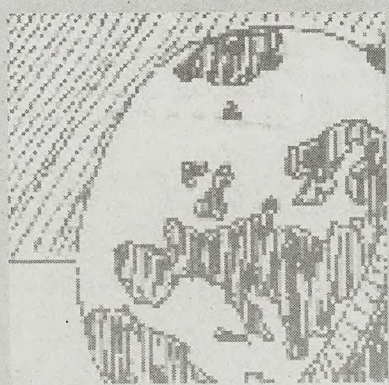


**Orange you curious?**  
Find out all you need to know about Midd's favorite '80s cover band, page 13.

**Yo, history, listen up**  
Art exhibit, "Confronting History," now open, page 17.







## overseas briefing

### Bridging the gap by Tom Brant '10

PARIS — In September, standing with a friend on a pedestrian bridge in Paris called the Pont des Arts, I was almost persuaded to jump into the River Seine. As we were admiring the night view of the City of Lights, a group of about five French guys our own age sauntered up to us. Seeing our decidedly non-Parisian garb, one of them asked, "Where are you from from?"

"The United States," I replied in French.

Then one of them asked, "Are you going to take off your clothes and jump in the river? Everyone does it at midnight."

We both looked at him blankly.

"Yes, it's true!" he said in English. "The water, I hear she is a nice this time of year."

"Okay, maybe. I don't know," I mumbled. It's times like these when my gullible side shows its true colors.

We parted ways, and around midnight, I casually glanced at my watch and half expected to see people actually jumping into the frigid water. Of course, no one did. Neither did we.

After living in Paris for several months, I gradually realized that the guys on the bridge weren't really messing with us to be mean. They probably just held a stereotype common among French people: Americans are stupid. Of course, like all stereotypes, not everyone in France actually believes that.

I have been keeping an eye and an ear out all semester long for French opinions of Americans. Many of the stereotypes I've come across have been at my volunteer job helping kids with homework at an after-school center. Here are some of the most striking:

There are two kinds of Americans: either they are obese, unintelligent and full of faults, or they are rich, beautiful movie stars with all the right qualities.

The staples of American food (in addition to hamburgers and fries) are corn flakes, mayonnaise and coffee.

American society is artificial, violent and primarily based on making money.

America's chief exports are political ideas, eating disorders, the media and McDonald's.

Once American students obtain their A-levels (an obvious confusion with the British school system) they immediately attend a university as far away as possible from their parents.

But perhaps the most amusing stereotype I've encountered was on a tenth-grader's English assignment. The question asked her to read a short passage on American universities and summarize it in her own words. This is, more or less, what she came up with: "To me, the typical American male student always goes to class with a can of Coke, wearing a sweatshirt personalized with the name of his university. During class, he slouches in the seat and thinks about American football and pom-pom girls."

Are the stereotypes true? I'm not sure. I'm busy obsessing over the Philadelphia Eagles loss to the Cardinals the other night, and pretty soon I'm going to need to go get another can of Coke to replace the empty one on my desk.

# LIS to instate new printing quota

By Kelly Janis  
NEWS EDITOR

Library and Information Services (LIS) is considering instituting printing quotas and establishing a sound-proof cell phone room in the Main Library. The plans were announced on the "All Things LIS" blog that Dean of Library and Information Services Michael Roy created shortly after he assumed his position last June.

The print management system, known as Paper Cut, will require users to send documents to the printer of their choice, title them and then "release" them at an adjacent terminal when they are prepared to print.

Director of User Services Mary Backus said the system is intended to reduce waste, save resources and curb user aggravation.

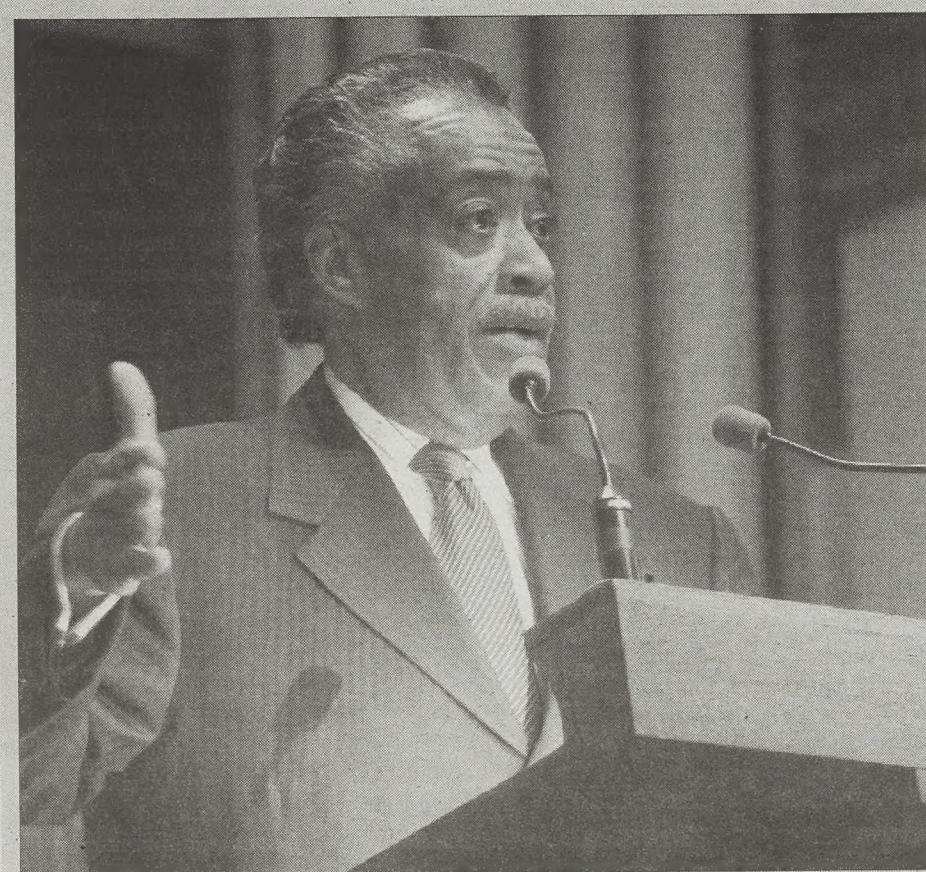
"Students are usually pretty frustrated with trying to get their jobs out of the printer, not knowing where they went," said Backus. "I've heard some students say they automatically print every job to all of the printers and then walk around and try to find one, which obviously adds to the waste and the wear and tear on the printers. And then the printers are down, and that causes frustration."

Library staff members will test one of the terminals within their departments this week. Later, students will pilot one on the ground floor of the Main Library, where a high concentration of staff members will allow easy intervention in the event of a problem. More terminals will then be phased in throughout the course of the spring semester. The print quotas — which Backus said would initially be set relatively high — are expected to take effect next fall.

Although Backus said the yet to be finalized quota is mostly intended to raise individuals' awareness of their habits, once it has been reached, there may be a charge for successive print jobs.

The College already uses Paper Cut to monitor network printing. In fact, it was this program that spawned Count Paper — the automated character who graced the inboxes of students, faculty and staff with monthly tallies of their paper usage last year.

"I, and my counterparts, Count Chocula, Count Dooku, the Count of Monte Cristo and Count von Count, are counting on you to continue to countscientiously countdense your paper waste," Count Paper wrote in his e-mails, informing recipients how many kilograms of



Grace Duggan, Photo Editor

### THE REV. AL SHARPTON ADDRESSES MEAD

On Feb. 11 "The Rev" visited the College, participating in a Wonnacott Commons dinner before speaking about activist virtues to the College and greater community in Mead Chapel.

carbon dioxide they had produced, and what percentage of a tree they had expended.

Much to the relief of some who were not fond of his friendly admonishments, Count Paper and his counterparts rode off into the sunset at the end of last spring.

"Most people saw the humor and were appreciative of knowing," Backus said. "Others found it not as pleasant."

Meanwhile, following a student's suggestion, LIS is considering setting aside what the blog described as "a soundproof space for impromptu phone conversations" in the Main Library.

In a comment to the post, lecturer and tutor-in-writing Mary Ellen Bertolini wrote "we are much more in need of a room where students can practice oral presentations."

Backus said she has not heard students express this particular need, but deemed it wor-

thy of consideration.

"That's why we have the blog — to weigh all points of view and try to do it all," she said.

Regardless of the form the project eventually takes, finding an ideal location poses its greatest challenge. Backus noted that group study rooms are in high demand, and that LIS would therefore be reluctant to repurpose them. She said library staff members have half-jokingly toyed with the idea of constructing a bright red telephone booth instead.

Backus said both proposals will be discussed with a broad cross section of the community — including faculty council, the Student Government Association and LIS's student advisory board — prior to their implementation.

"We want to make sure everyone is comfortable before we go ahead and do this," she said.

# Box office reports increase in sales

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possible, especially to students," wrote Sacheli. "That's why we have held the line on student ticket prices at \$5."

Students who seek to continue spending on campus or accrue a financial buffer in these

uncertain times are looking to the Student Employment Office (SEO) and professors for a variety of employment opportunities.

According to SEO Coordinator Deanna Gilbert, 104 new student jobs have been activated since the end of fall term.

In an e-mail, Gilbert explained that a

surge of students have begun seeking employment along with the beginning of the spring semester. Most students have been successful in finding jobs, either directly through SEO postings or through friends and professors.

Ginny Johnson '12 noted that while she has found work, it remains difficult to pay the soaring costs of tuition and books. Despite this, she tries to focus on her studies rather than the latest unemployment figures.

"I don't pay attention to the economy because I don't need to stress about the economy ... it's hard enough to pay tuition as it is," she said.

In continuing with its commitment to keep Middlebury affordable, though, Chief Financial Officer Patrick Norton assured that the College will not be decreasing the financial aid it gives to either current or future domestic students.

However, it is becoming evident that the College and its students are not seeing eye-to-eye regarding the definition of "sufficient" financial aid.

One student, Maegan Collins '12, told *The Campus* that a friend of hers was forced to leave when "his parents ... lost a lot of money in the stock market, and even though he was already on financial aid, the school couldn't give him more [to make up for his family's losses]. He wasn't able to finish out the year, and left after Christmas break."

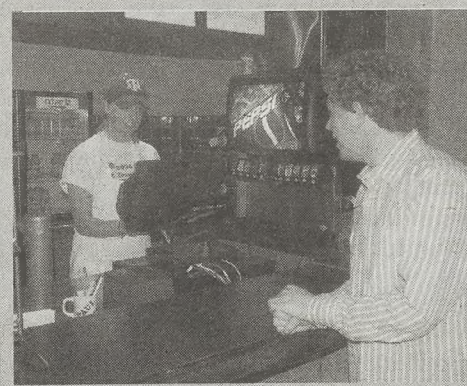
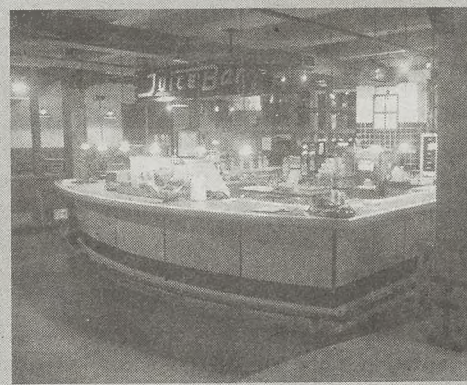
She reflected that "it's kind of hard to talk about financial issues with people, [but] I get the feeling that other people have had to do the same thing."



### McCullough Student Center Revised Hours

### The Grille & Juice Bar

Monday - Friday  
11:30 a.m. - 2:00 a.m.  
Saturday and Sunday  
5:00 p.m. - 2:00 a.m.



Mike Bayersdorfer

Student expenditure on campus has remained the same despite the recent economic decline.



# Brooker, Palmer remain super blocks

By Cloe Shasha  
STAFF WRITER

Brooker House and Palmer House, Middlebury's two "super block" houses, will continue to be used to house students united by a common interest in the fall of 2009. This year Brooker is themed as an outdoor interest house and Palmer houses students interested in arts and architecture.

The College is considering adding Fletcher House to the list of super block options for the fall of 2009.

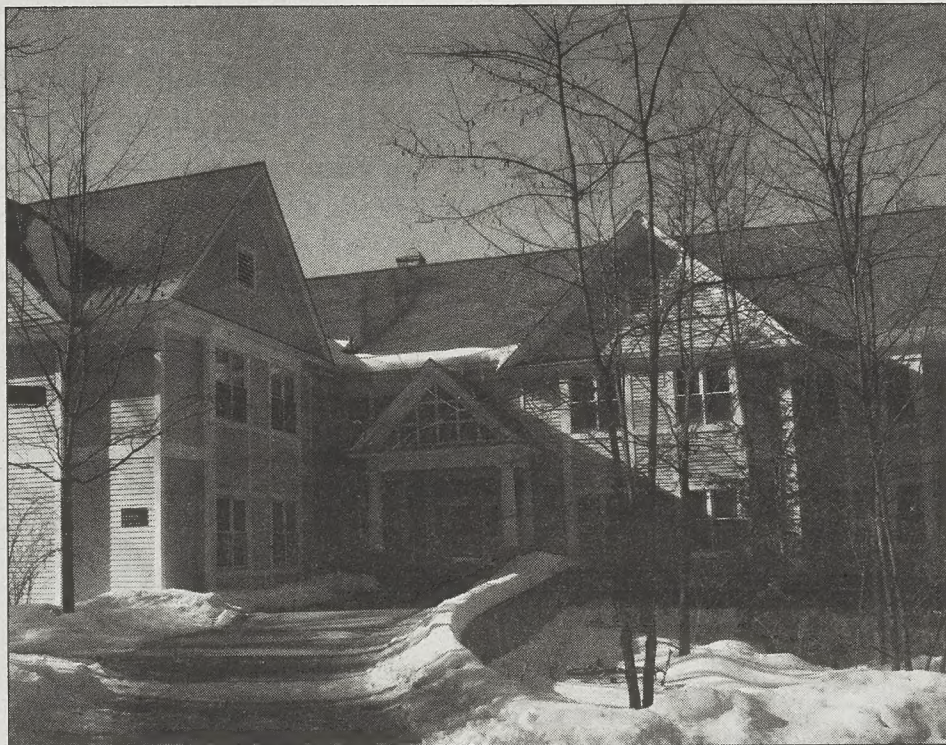
"If an appropriate group can be identified for Fletcher House — in light of its location in a residential neighborhood — there is the potential that it will be used as a super block," said Residential Systems Coordinator Karin Hall-Kolts.

Hall-Kolts said that Brooker and Palmer successfully met programming, management and leadership expectations throughout the fall and winter term, warranting their continued use as super blocks next year. The current super block groups can reapply for next year and Hall-Kolts hopes that more groups will gather forces and submit applications.

Current Brooker House residents Chester Harvey '09 and Jon Moen '10 have been happy with their living situation this year.

"Brooker is not only residential," Harvey said. "It is a social place where we host welcome events. The Mountain Club is a lifestyle, not an academic experience, and it's been helpful for the club to have the house."

Moen believes that Brooker has facilitat-



Palmer House, currently the Art and Architecture haven, will continue as a super block option.

ed the preservation of the Mountain Club's atmosphere.

"The Mountain Club is thought of as less of a gear rental center now," Moen said. "It is seen as a group of people, which makes it more informal."

Harvey thinks the system could improve, however, if the college allowed students to personalize the public spaces within

the super block houses. Moen agreed that having this freedom in the way that Language Houses and suites do would create a more intimate atmosphere.

"Brooker has small common spaces that are geographically dispersed throughout the

SEE FLETCHER, PAGE 4

## 51 Main contemplates expanding menu, hours

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"We put too many constraints on ourselves trying to not step on any toes, anywhere in the town of Middlebury, and it's just not reasonable," he said. "You can't run a business that way."

The solution: invite people in and run an actual business.

Many believe this is an inappropriate role for the College to play, especially considering the current state of the economy. By definition, small businesses are unable to absorb the same kinds of losses that larger organizations can, and the College is no exception. C.V. Starr Professor of Russian and East European Studies Michael Katz expressed this concern at the Jan. 20 meeting.

"Is the College in the business of competing with town merchants?" he asked. "If we are worried about town-gown relations, [the decision to expand hours and menu choices] certainly isn't going to do anything to improve them."

Although the original mission for 51 Main was to provide an alternative social space for students, it has grown to fill a larger niche in the local community as a forum for concerts, poetry slams, art openings and community events. Director of Programming Barbara Doyle-Wilch hopes that 51 Main's unique events will draw not only college students and local community members to the space, but people from across Vermont as well.

While in the long run a similar plan might succeed in drawing more business into downtown Middlebury, at present this goal appears to many as overly ambitious and merely an attempt to justify the College's presence in the area. Currently, 51 Main is rarely busy, and the most frequent complaint expressed in the open meeting was that the space is underutilized. Turning 51 Main into a cultural destination would require expansion and aggressive marketing, harming local businesses in the short-term in the hopes of long-term gains. For the time being, it is unclear whether local merchants are ready to allow such a possible threat to their livelihoods.

Mike Kiernan, a local resident, suggested that while the value of having a space where students and College employees can interact

with townspeople might not be readily apparent, the reward is significant.

"It is very hard to find the bottom line as far as the interface between town and gown goes but the payoff is there," he said.

Jessamyn Smyth, a visiting Winter Term professor, echoed this sentiment, proposing that 51 Main, as a truly successful venue, could serve to bring together diverse communities with resulting tangible and intangible recompense for Middlebury as a whole. Going further, Smyth suggested that precisely because the College can afford to sustain losses that another business would not be able to absorb, it has a duty to be bold in its plan for the venue.

"Middlebury College is a source of resource in Addison County, and 51 Main and Town Hall Theatre strike me as resource development in the form of music, art and culture," Smyth said. "A business that is doing really diverse programming, right in the center of town, is going to create a social space that everyone, from the campus or not, will use. If the goal is another campus office, then clearly it has nothing to do with the community. But if the goal is a successful venue that is building bridges for both students and the community, then a bold business plan has to be in place."

To Melanson, such boldness smells of unfair competition. He believes that the College, with its financial resources, should help buoy struggling local businesses rather than competing with them.

"Business downtown is so difficult, and to see somebody come in with deep pockets and set up this beautiful place, spend all this lavish amount of money and not open for months hurts," Melanson explained. "I'm working 12-hour days, struggling to get by, not getting a paycheck and now I find out that they are going to take a part of my clientele."

Not everyone sees 51 Main's proposed expansion as competition, however. Local resident Loretta Green has never been to 51 Main but is in favor of any business that gives people jobs.

"It would be better if local people owned 51 Main because that would mean more local jobs, but the College is a wonderful thing for the town and employs a lot of people," she said.



Andrew Ngeow, Photo Editor

College and community meet on Jan. 20.

Others also see potential for unity and collaboration, such as Liza Lloyd Sacheli, marketing manager for the Kevin P. Mahaney '84 Center for the Arts, who expressed conviction that bringing people downtown to 51 Main was just the beginning of a potential partnership between local business and the College.

"If [51 Main] were able to attract more people downtown [it would be] kind of the high water that raises all boats," Lloyd said. "If we can have a more lively social and arts scene in downtown Middlebury [it'd be] good for all of the cultural institutions." The concrete solution she proposed is to collaborate with local restaurants to host the pre-performance dinners that are being eliminated along with the Rehearsals Café.

Ria Shroff '09 also believes that 51 Main provides a place where the local and College communities can engage in dialogue that will promote better understanding between the two communities, which sometimes have diverging interests.

"51 Main provides a neutral zone where townspeople, who might not have a connection to the College, can engage with students and Middlebury College members in a social setting," Shroff said.

Although the controversy surrounding the College's foray into business is unlikely to be resolved swiftly, most people are hopeful that the final resolution will take into account the interests of both the town and College, perhaps even forging new bonds between the two.

## college shorts

By Dana Walters, Staff Writer

### Krispy Kreme Challenge boasts sweet rewards

On Feb. 7, North Carolina State University hosted the "Krispy Kreme Challenge" for the sixth time, and the smell of success wasn't so sweet. Duke University sophomore Zach Hing competed in the challenge, which asks people to run a four-mile distance in under an hour, with a stop halfway through to demolish one dozen glazed Krispy Kreme doughnuts.

"The finish line smelled like vomit. It was disgusting," Hing said. "I kind of resolved after the race to never eat Krispy Kremes again."

Students, such as Duke first-year Ben Jones, practice the race conditions prior to the big event. Jones took third place in the competition, but his stomach did not fare as well.

"Almost every guy that did all 12 doughnuts threw up afterward, but some of them did that intentionally because that's a lot of fat and calories that they wanted to get rid of," Jessica McFarlane, president of the Duke Roadrunners cross-country running club, said.

— The Duke Chronicle

### Washington University bans water bottles

In an innovative move for environmental advocacy, Washington University in St. Louis became the first college to forbid the sale of water bottles on campus. Other colleges are following their example and trying to implement their own bans.

Kady McFadden '10, who led the move toward the prohibition, said, "Because we're the first, we want to help facilitate other universities that are trying to go toward the same goal."

Penn State University, Ohio Wesleyan University and Brandeis University have all made efforts to draw attention to the issue.

However, the increased distaste for bottled water means a necessary move toward cleaner tap water.

"Ideally, those students would be working to pressure their cities to make the water cleaner," McFadden said.

— The Student Life, Washington U.

### NASA teams up with University of Nebraska

University of Nebraska-Lincoln students in the School of Engineering are receiving the chance of a lifetime — to work for NASA before they have even received a college degree. Two teams of five students each will attempt to simulate different reduced-gravity conditions similar to those experienced by astronauts in space.

One member of team Pow-RED, Jack Mondry, will attempt to create an escape plan for astronauts in emergency reduced-gravity situations.

"Hopefully we will never have to see the project used, but it is a contingency plan that can keep people safe," he said.

To be chosen for the program, students submitted extensive applications. Mondry's own application was 25 pages long. He then had to undergo multiple interviews. After being selected as captain of Pow-RED, however, he was allowed to select the other members of his team himself, as team FAST captain Brett Schlueter said, "gym class style."

— The Daily Nebraskan



# SNG strives to engage a diverse student base

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being asked to pay \$40 each, rather than the \$20 originally stipulated.

Although organizers were initially concerned about the effect this would have on participation, students flocked to the Chateau Grand Salon on Sunday evening to pay the difference without complaint. The group is also receiving financial support from the Commons, the Environmental Council, the Alliance for Civic Engagement and several private donors. If this proves insufficient, SNG will take out a loan from the SGA Finance Committee.

**The organizers of the conference are really impressed with us.**

— Ben Wessel '11

"I was carrying \$2,300 in my book bag this morning," Wessel said. "It spilled on the floor of Bi Hall. It was crazy."

Planners still have a few kinks to work out — namely, housing.

"We will have places to stay," said Jacob Udell '12, another organizer, noting that many alumni have offered up couches.

"There will be at least 15 people in my house, and tents in my backyard," said Wes-

sel, a D.C. native. "It's going to be tight. But it's working itself out."

Udell said the group plans to mitigate the scattered lodging by convening Middlebury-specific activities in the city.

"It's hard to get people excited if there's not one main hub of activity," he said.

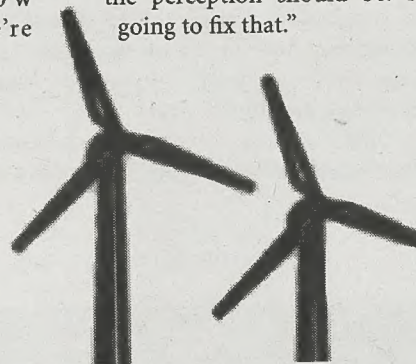
"Last year was a total bonding experience," Wessel said. "This year, we're going to have an old-guard, new-guard, Middlebury SNG alum throw-down."

Udell and Wessel are excited by the diversity of the group taking shape.

"A lot of them aren't really SNG people yet," Udell said.

He expects Power Shift to permanently hook students who may have originally been motivated by an inexpensive trip to D.C. and a free t-shirt and "open up environmental activism to the whole campus."

"People think of SNG as intimidating, which weirds me out, because I think of it as super-welcoming," Wessel said. "That's not how the perception should be. So we're going to fix that."



## Students befuddled by role of SGA

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Smith cited last spring remain uncompleted thus far. The multi-purpose access cards, which would transform current student IDs into a laundry, debit, access and copy card, are, as Harper says, "still in the works," because of the large amounts of research and work that they require.

And many College students still do not understand what SGA does, nor do they have much of an idea of what the SGA has accomplished yet this year.

"I can honestly tell you that I don't really have one," remarked Jack Kramer '10 when asked his opinion on the SGA.

The several students with whom Kramer was sitting all agreed.

"[There are] a lot of people on campus who are unclear as to what the SGA's initiatives are," said Phebe Meyers '11.

While the monthly student rallies that Smith has introduced do invite community members to take initiative and listen to what is going on, many students still remain in the dark as they lack the time to attend these rallies.

Smith admitted that he has not done everything that he set out to at the start of the year, but maintains that his focus has been more on the internal workings of the SGA.

"Given the complaints and general negative or indifferent attitude most students on

campus have towards the SGA, I figured it was time to really re-examine the student government to see if it was living up to its name, and if not, why," Smith said.

Thus Smith spent the majority of last semester researching the role of not only the SGA as a whole, but the roles of each individual position within the group. He, with the help of Director of the Center for Campus Activities and Leadership (CCAL) and SGA advisor Doug Adams, wrote an SGA guidebook. This manual will, Smith hopes, reduce the "learning curve" that new members of the SGA often encounter upon entering office. He and Adams also decided to start a program this coming spring to train the incoming administration so that it can be more prepared to take on the 2009-2010 academic year.

Smith also created three new SGA committees: External Affairs, Publicity and Special Projects.

Smith called all of these internal changes his greatest accomplishment of the past semester.

"If you want to make a change in the broader community, you must first start with yourself," he said.

Other SGA members recognize that, to some, it seems that Smith has not carried out the goals he set at the start of his term. But Harper assures students that positive steps will come from the behind-the-scenes reorganization.

## Middbrief

### SGA Update: Meeting focuses on recent budget cuts and students' role in fiscal responsibility

by Nicole Lam, Staff Writer

At this week's meeting, the Student Government Association (SGA) discussed the recent financial decisions made by the College administration which were made with little opportunity for input from SGA senators and committees.

"Although I understand that many concerns were sensitive issues that the trustees wanted to keep confidential, the SGA still feels that on some affairs, it should have had a say," said SGA President Bobby Joe Smith '09. "The SGA wants to play an active part in doing what it was created to do — represent the student body."

After reading President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz's e-mail, many SGA members were shocked at some of the cuts, such as the closing of Atwater dining hall, the decision to halt the recently expanded MiddView orientation program and the possibility of financial aid reductions.

"We feel that the trustees are trying their very best during this difficult time but there was still room for recommendations by the SGA," Smith said in an interview with *The Campus*. Chief Financial Officer Patrick Norton agreed to meet with the SGA on Feb. 16 to discuss the decisions made by the College.

However, Smith acknowledges that issues like faculty and staff employment and retirement pensions are concerns

that students should try to be more sensitive about. Realistically, Smith said, sacrifices and compromises had to be made. Moreover, during the interview, Smith acknowledged that many changes are temporary.

"As far as what I think about Atwater, the pre-orientation programs and classes during Winter Term, I think they were the right decisions, and will save the school a great deal of money," said Smith. "With the adjustments being made to Proctor and Ross, there will actually be a greater seating capacity for meals than there is currently with Atwater, FIC and Ross."

Smith explained that there will still be Winter Term courses but that they will be taught mostly by College faculty instead of visiting professors. Smith also stated that by eliminating MiddView and keeping the pre-orientation programs on campus, everyone will be included in these pre-orientation programs and the College will save money.

Topics other than the College's recent budget cuts were also discussed at this week's SGA meeting. Atwater Senator Ethan Schmertzler '12 suggested that Facilities Services consider lowering the temperature settings of the heating systems campus-wide to save energy and money.

"Many of the committee members noticed that students and professors were opening windows because the rooms were too hot and stuffy," said Smith. "We want to find a solution that would help the College financially."

## Fletcher a super block candidate

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

house, and each one could be more unique and personal if we were allowed to hang things up on the walls," Harvey explained.

Moen plans on reapplying to live in Brooker House with the Outdoor Interest super block for next fall.

A group of sophomores is also considering forming a super block under a different theme: music.

"There are not enough people on campus who play music together regularly," said Michaela O'Connor '11. "But there are so many talented musicians. I think it would be so awesome if we could have a big group of people who could go home together and play music."

Other students are drawn to the super block houses for more social reasons.

"It's a chance to have a community within a community at college," said Emma Drucker '11. "It would be nice to live near the woods."

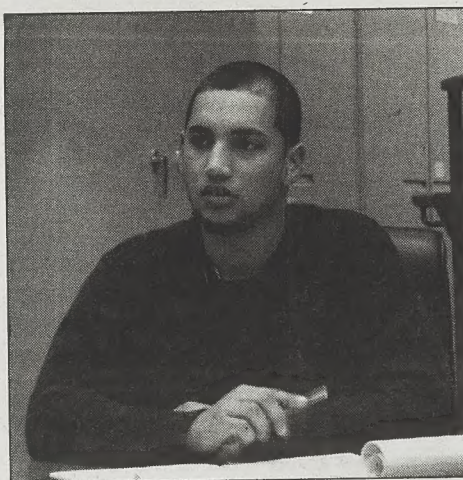
"It would be an amazing opportunity to be able to go home and have my home be filled with people I want to spend time with," said Moriel Rothman '11.

But not all students can apply to live in a super block — some restrictions come along with the territory.

"The introduction of the 4/2 plan does not directly affect the super block process other than to limit the membership for the fall term to junior and senior students," Hall-Kolts said. "Second-term sophomores may join a block in the spring term."

Like Hall-Kolts, Acting Dean of the College Gus Jordan is also satisfied with the way the super block system has worked this year.

"Student groups currently in the houses may reapply, but will be considered along with all other applications," Jordan said. "All interested groups will need to generate a compelling application for the houses, expanding on the ways their proposals will benefit the College community."



Laurice Fox

Bobby Joe Smith, current SGA president.

"Improving communication on all fronts has been a slow process but progress is being made," she said.

If his work to change the culture of the SGA is as effective as he believes, he will be able to execute the goals that resonated with students last spring. In the difficult economic climate and with the allowances that College students will have to make in the coming semester, the next four months will be a true test of both Smith's new SGA structure and his capability as the strong leader that students need in times of change. Smith hopes that he and the rest of the SGA are up to the task.

"We still have the entire second half of the school year to get the things I had initially intended accomplished," he declared. "I think the SGA as a whole will have to bring it up another notch in order to make the most out of this year, but I am confident we can do this."

## public safety log

February 10, 2009 - February 16, 2009

DATE	TIME	INCIDENT	CATEGORY	LOCATION	DISPOSITION
2/12/2009	4:00 p.m.	Attempted theft	Office Furniture Storage	Service Building	No Suspects
2/12/2009	9:00 p.m.	Theft from public space	Cash	Memorial Field House	No Suspects
2/14/2009	1:26 a.m.	Vandalism	Le Chateau	Broken Glass Pane	No Suspects
2/15/2009	1:18 a.m.	Harassment	Telephone	Gifford	Referred to MPD

The Department of Public Safety reported giving 4 alcohol citations between Feb. 10, 2009 and Feb. 16, 2009.





# Winter's a drag ...

## ... but the queens of the House of LeMay offered some color this Valentine's Day

By Amanda Cormier

Local News Editor

When you venture to talk to Maggie LeMay, expect to be taken on a tangent.

"In Vermont, we've always been very lucky about having more gay rights than any other state in the country, with civil unions and different kinds of affirmative action," said LeMay, one of the four sisters in the House of LeMay, Vermont's premiere drag group. She turned to a short woman who had squeezed through the crowd en route to the exit of the crowded Higher Ground lobby. "Yeah, Tracy, that's fine. Leave. Where are my wings? Make sure they get back to me."

Maggie had just finished a whirlwind of song and dance performances in the cabaret show that kicked off the 14th annual "Winter is a Drag Ball" at Higher Ground on Feb. 14. Breathless, she sauntered through the lobby in a self-designed Queen of Hearts gown with a cocktail balanced in one hand, greeting nearly every person that she passed with a "Hi, darling," and a compliment on his or her outfit.

After 12 years of performing as one of the four sisters in the House of LeMay, Maggie (who outside of performances goes by Michael Hayes) knows everyone.

The ball was hosted for the sixth

time by the House of LeMay as a fundraiser for the Vermont People With AIDS Coalition, which helps fund a yearly retreat for people living with HIV/AIDS in Vermont. Although the LeMays had been performing in drag balls for years, the group gladly seized the opportunity for philanthropy when the Coalition approached the group's leader, Bob Bolyard (Amber LeMay). Each year, the group raises more money for the Coalition than any other organization. Maggie is quick to point this out.

"Last year we set a record for the largest attendance of any single event at Higher Ground at 1,064," she said. "This year we sold out 1,000 tickets by 2 or 3 p.m. on the day they started selling." She then turned to a friend who, drink in hand, ventured toward the door. "No booze outside. I'm sorry — I'm a control queen."

Kathy Kilcourse, program administrator for the Coalition, said that the ball has become a crucial component in the group's efforts to improve the quality of life for people living with HIV/AIDS.

"It would be very hard for us to do our retreat without the support of the drag ball," Kilcourse said.

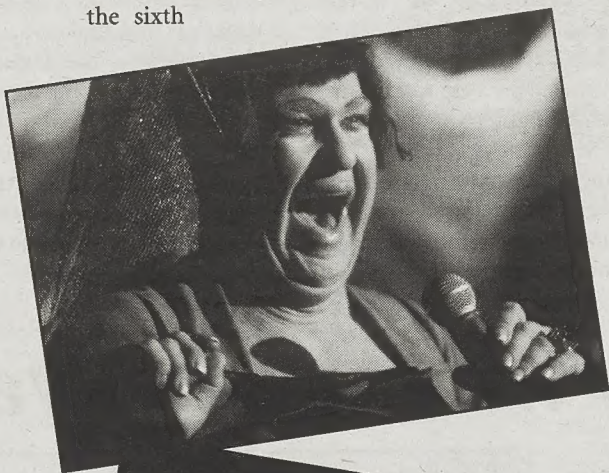
The large-scale event made use of both of Higher Ground's performance spaces. A cabaret-style show, complete with soft lighting and lots of hearts dangling everywhere showcased the night's theme, "Queen of Hearts." Amber, Maggie and cousin Lucybelle (Johnnie McLaughlin) sang several numbers and introduced performances by Vermont artists like soul singer Myra Flynn.

In the adjacent

space, a rotation of DJs and local bands performed to a dancing crowd of nearly 1,200. The traditional "drag ball" originated in New York City in the early 1980s, where different "Houses" or groups of drag queens competed in dance and costuming. The event is more of an outlandish cotillion for the LGBT community, where anything goes and everyone is accepted. Maggie said that the group drew on New York City drag ball culture to form the LeMays, a play on the inexpensive fabric "lamé," which hints at the outlandish nature of the group's costumes.

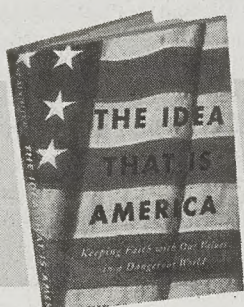
"Amber and I were the sisters LeMay, and we used to do an hour, hour-and-a-half show by ourselves," she said. "We're getting too old for that. There was a wonderful documentary called 'Paris is Burning' [released in the early 1990s] and that's where we picked up the story of the different houses. We now have a wonderful band; Craig Hilliard is the most amazing accompanist in the world, and we've been adding more people to our performances little by little."

This includes Liza Little, who rounds out the quartet but was absent from performances at the ball. Little is played by Michael Glidden, the night



Andrew Ngeow, Photo Editor

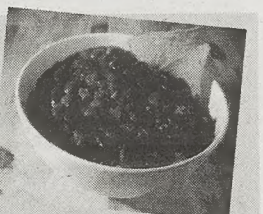
SEE BALL, PAGE 7



**Policy planning**  
High-ranking Obama official offers American ideals in Town Hall Theater talk, page 6.

**3SquaresVT**  
State of Vermont revamps Food Stamp program with aid from federal funds, page 7.

**Winter Carnival spiced up**  
The Better Middlebury Partnership presents this weekend's chili contest, page 7.





# Obama official speaks to packed town theater

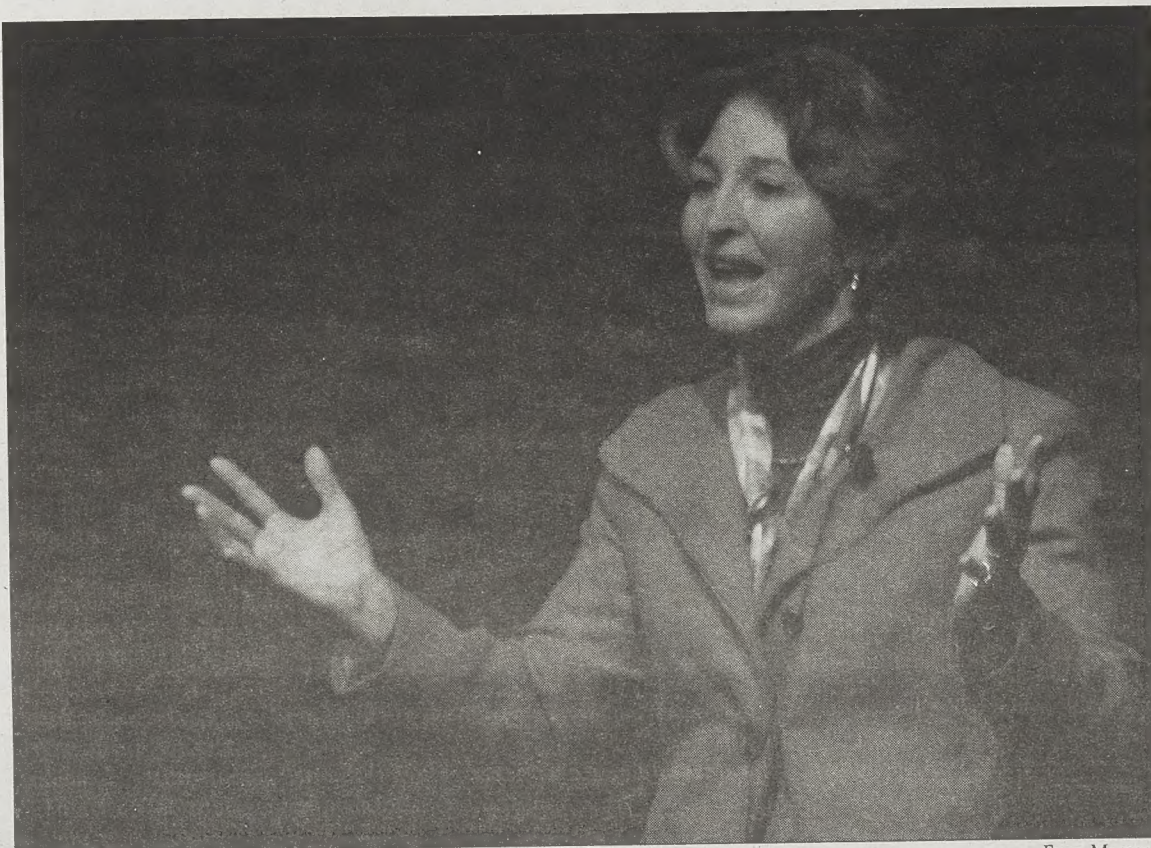
## Anne-Marie Slaughter offers seven core values in "The Idea that is America"

By J.P. Allen  
STAFF WRITER

Middlebury residents gathered on Feb. 13 to discuss U.S. values and politics with Anna-Marie Slaughter, a distinguished scholar and recently-appointed high official in the Obama administration. Held in the Town Hall Theater, the talk was sponsored by The Vermont Humanities Council, Middlebury's Rohatyn Center for International Affairs and the Ilsley Public Library.

Slaughter is a former dean of Princeton's Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs. In January, she was nominated by Secretary of State Hillary Clinton to be director of the Policy Planning Staff, a government think tank charged with taking what its mission statement calls a "longer term, strategic view" of U.S. foreign policy. The Staff reports its findings directly to the Secretary of State. Slaughter is the first female ever to be appointed to lead the elite research group.

But Slaughter did not speak in Middlebury as a representative of the State Department, but rather as a private citizen and author of the book, "The Idea that is America: Keeping Faith with Our Values in a Dangerous World." In fact, the event was the only speaking en-



Evan Masseau

Anne-Marie Slaughter, a prominent foreign policy expert, explains the values she holds close in modern America.

and their degraded prisoners. The result of that search was "The Idea that is America." The book examines what Slaughter sees as the seven "core American values": liberty, equality, justice, democracy, tolerance, humility and faith.

less obvious values. She admitted to having received in the past many incredulous reactions to "humility" as a core American value, and was keen to offer quotations from Washington, Lincoln and others articulating American modesty.

pect too much. She argued that it is impossible to stop people from thinking, "I may not agree with you, I may not like you, I may not want my children to go to your schools," and therefore tolerance and a bit of civility are large enough moral goals.

A Middlebury professor, concerned with the coherence of Slaughter's set of values, asked what should be done at times when promoting one value undercuts another. "We never achieve these values perfectly," replied Slaughter. "You have to trade them off." She offered a theoretical example: If the U.S. were forced to choose between, on the one hand, striking a deal with the Taliban, and on the other hand, leaving Afghanistan in certain chaos, what should be done? When justice is pitted against liberty, the U.S. must do "the best we can do" — which, Slaughter admitted, may be very little.

Slaughter made similar points when asked about her thoughts on the genocide in Darfur. She originally favored military intervention

(with a UN mandate) in Sudan. But after seeing the consequences of the Iraq invasion, she began to think that a deal with the Sudanese government might be the only way to stop the violence. In short, "peace may trump justice right now."

On other issues, Slaughter proved more optimistic. When asked how humility can remain valued in a nation seemingly obsessed with self-aggrandizement, Slaughter argued that we are more humble than we seem. She cited the American love of self-improvement as a primary example: "You can't always want to get better if you think you're already perfect," she said.

She evinced faith in the generation currently aged 15-30, arguing that today's "digital natives" who have grown up with globalization are more prepared to accept the tough realities of this century than their predecessors may believe.

The final question came from a member of that generation, a College student: "People of my generation who are graduating from college are full of energy and are hyper-educated, but we can't get a job at Starbucks. Can you give us hope that we are employable in your State Department?"

Slaughter remained optimistic about such career quandaries. She proposed creating "the civilian equivalent of the military": a system that would allow regiments of volunteers to sign up for short tours of duty to work on development and humanitarian projects — a sort of expanded incarnation of the foreign service or Peace Corps. Slaughter said that, as director of Policy Planning Staff, she would look seriously at the possibility of creating such a service.

After the presentation, Slaughter signed copies of "The Idea that is America" and spoke one-on-one with people who had been unable to ask questions during the allotted time. Many of those who attended took advantage of the opportunity for extra conversation, extending further this brief, unprecedented look into the future of the Obama administration.

**You can't always want to get better if you think you're already perfect.**

**—Anne-Marie Slaughter**

agement Slaughter did not cancel after taking up her new post in Washington, making it was also her last presentation as a private citizen. These unique circumstances allowed the audience, composed of a mixture of students, faculty and other area residents to ask incisive questions and get candid answers from Slaughter.

The talk began with an hour-long exposition. After the 2004 Abu Ghraib scandal, Slaughter felt "compelled" to search for the values she felt had been all but destroyed by the photos of American soldiers

She considers the first four of these relatively simple and familiar to most Americans. "If you woke someone up in the middle of the night and said, 'Quick! Name me core American values,' they'd probably come up with liberty, equality, justice and democracy," she said during the presentation.

The last three values — tolerance, humility and faith — required more explanation and comprised a larger portion of Slaughter's speech. Slaughter often called on examples from U.S. history to argue and support the three

The Middlebury community responded in force. On a Friday night, the Town Hall Theater was packed with people enthusiastic to hear from a figure who, though vastly influential, lacks the celebrity status of an ambassador or other government official. When Slaughter opened the floor for questions, hands shot up.

One audience member asked Slaughter why she had called the fifth value "tolerance," a word with neutral connotations at best, rather than "respect." The answer was frank: to expect "respect" is to ex-

bring some warmth to the town. "Chili lends itself to a winter event," said Brady. "And there are so many ways you can do it."

Among the restaurants competing are the Middlebury Market and Café, Fire and Ice Restaurant and the Café Provence in Brandon, Vt. Chef Laura Lapointe, assistant chef at Café Provence, will be cooking two gallons of veal and beef chili. She has already won various chili contests, including last year's at the Brandon Country Club. Sometimes the Café makes this chili as the soup of their day.

"When we don't have it for a while, some people ask for it," said Café Provence's Head Chef Robert Barral. Barral is quick to boast the Café's slogan: "This is the best chili in town."

Lapointe will begin to prepare the chili on Saturday morning, long before eager participants can taste it. The process of cooking the chili gently on the stove with the Café's homemade chili powder usually takes a couple of hours.

The firefighters, who will be judged in the "amateur" category, will cook the chili in their homes. Firefighter Adam Meyers said that from what he sampled during the meeting, participants can expect Tom Sullivan to bring a great beef chili and Ryan Emilio to bring a delicious veggie chili.

Emilio will also bring his version of venison chili. When asked about the details of his recipe, he was decidedly coy. "One chili will be venison, one will be vegetarian, and the rest of the ingredients are a secret," he said.

## Chili contest to spice up town's winter carnival

By Liz Scarcini  
STAFF WRITER

The Middlebury Fire Department recently turned up the heat at one of their bi-weekly meetings by sampling eight different homemade chilis. Eight firefighters aim to compete with several other chefs in Middlebury's first annual chili contest. The Better Middlebury Partnership, formerly known as the Middlebury Business Association, will hold the event on Feb. 21 from 3 to 5 p.m. on Main Street.

Megan Brady, co-coordinator of the event and one of the owners of Two Brothers Tavern, hopes the event will attract people to downtown Middlebury. There will be various events on and around Main Street for the entire community, ranging from dog sledding to snowshoeing.

Currently, 24 restaurants and eight "amateur" participants from the community are set to compete in the chili contest, although they will be judged separately. Many participants are bringing more than one kind of chili to compete in several categories. Representatives from the College will be participating with five different kinds of chili.

The public will taste the chilis and vote to decide the winners. The categories will include best beef, chicken, pork, game, lamb and vegetarian varieties. Contestants will also be competing for the title of hottest chili and the chili with the best overall presentation.

The coordinators decided to hold the chili contest to

### The lowdown:

#### Middlebury Chili Contest

##### Categories:

Best beef  
Best chicken  
Best pork  
Best game  
Best lamb  
Best vegetarian  
Hottest chili  
Best overall presentation

##### Participants:

Middlebury Fire Department  
Café Provence  
Fire and Ice  
... and 22 more restaurants



# Ball benefits People With AIDS Coalition

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

ball. Little is played by Michael Glidden, the night manager for The Grille.

The LeMays' prominent place in Vermont's LGBT community — which seems a given considering their status as the only working drag group in the state — is cemented by their commitment to equality. Their final number "You Need Us to Make the U.S.A." boasted cheeky statements like "You can't take the color out of Colorado."

Russell Dreher, who met the group as a graduate student through the Burlington theater community, was struck by the group's ability to bring people together. Dreher created a documentary about the House of LeMay called "Slingbacks and Syrup," which highlights the personalities of the LeMays and the "boys who play them." The film premiered at the Vermont International Film Festival in 2007.

"There are a lot of stories told about the LGBT community that are good stories, but they tend to have tragic endings, or [start] tragically but lead to a good outcome," he said. "[The LeMays] are just a good positive role model for people, whether or not they're part of the [LGBT] community. It's really about how these guys have done what they've done and affected everyone. Tonight's crowd is a diverse one that's come to have a good time."

And when the accepted dress code ranges from leashes to spandex to nothing but body paint, the mere overstimulation is enough to merit a good time.

The only dud of the night was a cabaret performance by a soulful man in a white rabbit suit, an effort at coinciding with the night's "Queen of Hearts" theme. Although in good spirit, the costume bore a slight resemblance to a more enthusiastic version of the murderous rabbit from the film "Donnie Darko." It was creepy. The trills and runs emitted from beneath the oversized incisors that were part of his mask made me long for the relative normality of the guy being pulled around on a leash. At its conclusion, awkward claps and several sighs of relief were emitted from the crowd.

Despite the outrageousness and competing individuality of the costumes, the ball retained its identity as a close-knit gathering of prominent members of Vermont's politically active LGBT community — many were recognizable from a Freedom to Marry protest that took place shortly after California's Proposition 8 was passed — and those who simply wanted to dance in leather chaps without fear of ridicule.

Perhaps that is the essence of Winter is a Drag Ball: a celebration of color and vibrancy against the seemingly sleepy backdrop of rural Vermont. This is one thing Maggie is sure of when pondering the continuing legacy of House of LeMay, even through times of economic uncertainty.

"The idea about art of any kind is not to lose money," she said. "My day job pays for the outfit, and I can sew like a son-of-a-bitch. I taught costume design at one of the state colleges years ago. As long as I don't lose money, I'm fine. I still use press-on nails, and I'm having a great time."



Andrew Ngeow, Photo Editor

Lucybelle LeMay (Johnnie McLaughlin) mingles at the drag ball, where more than 1,200 people enjoyed several performances.

## State revamp of food stamps broadens eligibility

By Grady Ross  
STAFF WRITER

In an economic climate that many are comparing to the Great Depression, the state of Vermont is revamping its food stamp program — a program that found its start in that first major period of financial distress. Renamed 3SquaresVT, the new program is designed to reach out to more Vermonters than ever in an effort state administrators hope will extend help to a quickly broadening population in need.

Most importantly, the threshold at which citizens become eligible for food stamps has been more inclusive. Before Jan. 1, hopeful applicants were required to have an income at or below 130 percent of the poverty level.

Since Governor Jim Douglas enacted the new program, the income eligibility level is now at 185 percent below the poverty line, opening the opportunity

to a more extensive pool of Vermonters. In a phone interview, Joanne Heidkamp, program director for the Vermont Campaign to End Childhood Hunger, said that Vermonters, particularly in today's economy, have an increased sense of urgency when providing for their families.

"Participants are going dollar for dollar, going for the most food the money can buy," Heidkamp said.

In addition, the program increases the variety of deductions that people can claim when applying for assistance. Previously, regardless of how much a person paid for

childcare, elderly assistance or similar services, one could only claim \$200 as costs.

"Your gross income level determines whether or not you can apply, but your net income after deductions determines the amount of benefits you get," Heidkamp said.

Changes of this degree require financial backing, money that is not necessarily easy to come by under current economic circumstances. The program found its champion in Congress, which approved an increase in funds to food stamp programs across the nation as part of the economic stimulus package. Heidkamp said their willingness to back food stamps makes sense.

"Money cannot go into a savings account," said Heidkamp. "It must be put

enter the workforce."

Heidkamp said lawmakers also took social issues into account when they undertook the project. Some elderly people, for example, have been forced to choose between heat and food this winter, thereby jeopardizing their own health. These concerns convinced administrators to act now.

Since the induction of the 3SquaresVT program, hits on the program's official website, vtfoodhelp.org, have doubled to exceeding 10,000 per month. Applications to the program, said Heidkamp, have also risen substantially since the new program went into effect.

This is due in part to an enthusiastic publicity campaign launched by the state of Vermont. There are five Community Action Agencies and five Agencies on Aging around the state working with their members to pass along necessary information

about the new program. Physicians' offices, churches, elementary schools and multiple public institutions have also joined the effort to spread the information.

Heidkamp noted that it is important that not just one group of Vermonters be targeted, but that the information be available to everyone.

"Households that previously did not need help are finding need of the program," she said.

Vermont is the 13th state to make income and asset changes to food stamp programs.

**We need to make sure the next generation is nourished while they're gaining the skills to enter the workforce.**

—Joanne Heidkamp

directly into the local economy," she said. Moody's Economy, a leading independent provider of economic analysis, has called the food stamp program the most effective method of economic stimulus.

But Heidkamp said the plan encourages economic growth in more indirect ways as well. "Changes in the economy are making it difficult for people to nourish their families," she said. "People are often sacrificing their own nourishment to feed their children. We need a workforce that's ready to work. We need to make sure the next generation is nourished while they're gaining the skills to

## local lowdown

### It's a British comedy, dahling

Feb. 19, 20, 21, 8:00 p.m.  
and Feb. 22, 2:00 p.m.

The Middlebury Community Players present "Lettice and Lovage" at the Town Hall Theater in Middlebury. Hailed as "a deliciously offbeat comedy," "Lettice and Lovage" features a tour guide to the most boring mansion in England who makes up stories and details to entertain the tourists. Directed by Joann Langrock. Tickets: general admission \$15, seniors \$12, reserve tickets at the THT box office or by calling 382-9222.

### Cribbage Tournament

Feb. 21, 1:00 p.m.

The Bridport Masonic Community Hall will be hosting a cribbage tournament to raise money for local scholarship funds. Entrance fee: \$5. Call 989-4433 for more information.

### Snowshoe trek!

Feb. 21, 9:30 a.m.

Beginning at the trailhead at the corner of York Hill Road and West Hill Road in Lincoln, the trek will lead through Bristol Cliffs wilderness to Gilmore Pond with the Breadloaf section of the Green Mountain Club. Bring snowshoes, poles, snacks, water and layers! Call Kathy Duclos with questions or to confirm: 453-2149.

### Middlebury town winter ball

Feb. 21, 7:30 p.m.

Two Brothers' Tavern is excited to host Middlebury's first winter carnival ball. The Sandra Wright Band will play a show for all ages. Entry fee is \$3 for those over 21. Call for more information: 388-0002.

### Mardi Gras jam in Middlebury

Feb. 24, 7 p.m.

Come celebrate Mardi Gras at the Town Hall Theater with zydeco band Mango Jam. Cajun food will be featured and prizes will be awarded for best costumes. The evening begins with Bajun and zydeco dance lessons. Admission \$25. Call for information: 388-1436.



## The Middlebury Campus

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## Editorial

The staff editorial represents the official opinion of The Middlebury Campus as decided by the editorial board.

### Go big, or go home

When Old Chapel first unveiled its plans for the College-owned property at 51 Main St. over a year ago, we were cautiously optimistic about the space's potential to bring students into contact with area residents in a mutually productive and enjoyable way. Increased student turnout at events like poetry slams and concerts suggests that, at the very least, 51 Main at the Bridge is coming into its own as a viable alternative outlet for campus programming.

Still, the establishment has been plagued up to this point by the College's unwillingness to commit fully to a decisive plan of action. While we appreciate Old Chapel's intent to tread carefully so as not to engender ill will among local merchants — not to mention other community members, including some outspoken College faculty who oppose increased presence in the town of Middlebury — we feel that the time has come to regard the fledgling 51 Main with the same unflinching scrutiny that has recently been aimed at the College's other retail operations.

The resources currently pouring into the venue's development are, by virtue of a targeted donation, restricted for that purpose alone. This exclusivity explains how College officials are considering an expansion of 51 Main's operating hours, even as other dining outlets face cutbacks — or outright closure, in the case of Rehearsals Café and Atwater dining hall. If Old Chapel does not intend to cut its losses downtown and take the necessary steps to divert those specially allocated funds elsewhere, then 51 Main must ultimately function on its own as a profitable enterprise. It's time to go big — or go home.

Concerns about 51 Main's impact upon local commerce are to be expected, particularly in light of the nation's persistent economic woes. But there is also reason to believe that that impact will be less than disastrous. Many are against the business's proposed foray into coffee drinks, yet Carol's Hungry Mind loyalists would likely rather die of dehydration than turn elsewhere for their soy lattes. As any member of the over-21 crowd can attest, 51 Main's bar has had little visible effect on Thursday night crowding outside Two Brothers Lounge. And if the prospect of an expanded menu at 51 Main still has town retailers fuming, Middlebury students have bemoaned for years the dearth of proximal sushi.

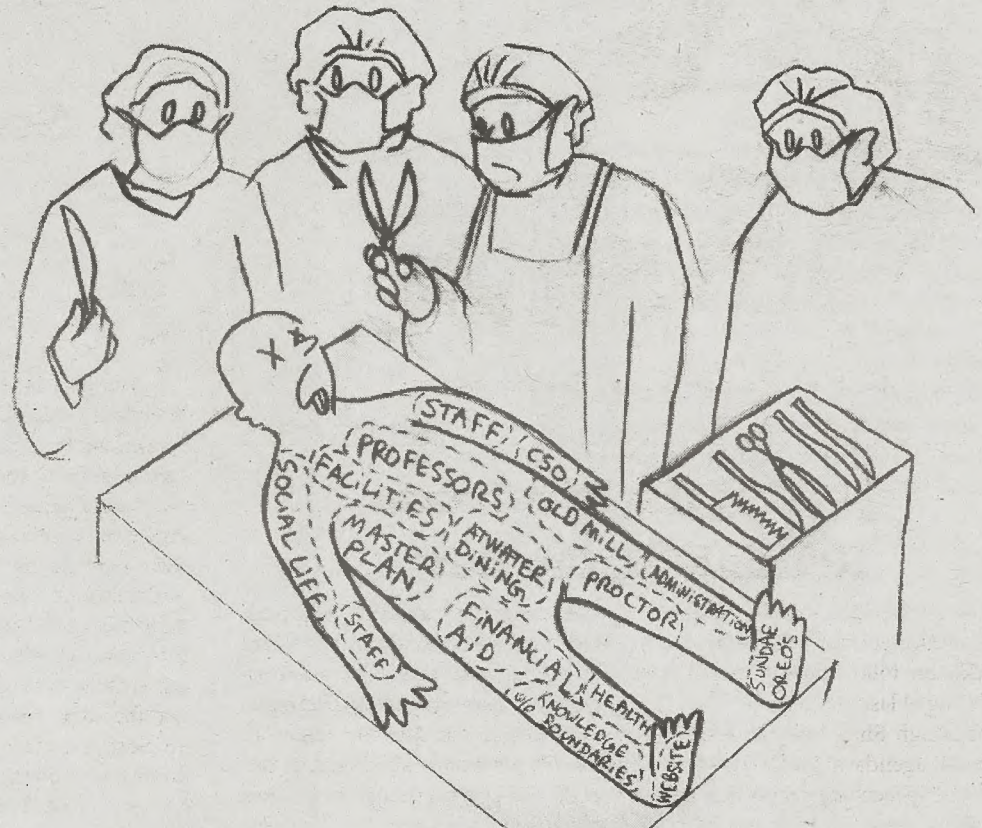
Besides offering fresh social and culinary opportunities, an expansion at 51 Main will create a bevy of new jobs and generate consistent revenue — the kind of performance that another small business in the same space might have trouble providing. That said, *The Campus* cautions Old Chapel not to stray from its original mission: to develop 51 Main as a lively intersection of College and community life. The compelling events held there this year — events that would surely attract a wider audience if sufficiently advertised — have been attended almost exclusively by students. Overturning the establishment's marketing ban could be the first step towards achieving for 51 Main the goals that its founders set out over a year ago.

## contact the campus

To contact The Middlebury Campus Publications with story tips or content suggestions, e-mail: [campus@middlebury.edu](mailto:campus@middlebury.edu) or find us on the web at: [www.middleburycampus.com](http://www.middleburycampus.com)

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## Budget Cuts



Any suggestions?

John Birnbaum

## Notes from the Desk: H. Kay Merriman

### The Waiting Game

When I applied to Middlebury, back before the days of courting the Top 100 applicants, I was under the impression that Middlebury wanted you to come to them. Want a free Nalgene with your \$50,000 education? Get in line. You have to demonstrate an eagerness, a desire, a sense of urgency. You can't wait to be at Middlebury, and in order to get there, you must prove to the College that they can't wait to have you either. Then, once you complete the lengthy application expressing all that you have accomplished to deserve instant acceptance, you must wait for their response. Call me eager, or impatient, but I applied early decision. Once my packet of acceptance was in hand (despite my impatience, I did not succumb to checking online and subsequently entering chat forums in order to speculate about our future collegiate lives in Vermont), I thought the waiting game was over. I had proven myself. Now, Middlebury would wait on me.

For the most part, I was correct in my thinking. I received a very warm welcome upon arrival to Battell, including a human tunnel to run through and a handful of JCs (that's FYCs for the "Top 100" students and their classmates) to carry my luggage to my room. I found strong communities in Cook Commons, the Women's Rugby Team and *The Middlebury Campus* that were more than helpful in guiding me through the adjustment of coming to college. Still, despite all the advice and free cookies doled out ad infinitum to new students, I could not help but notice in my classmates an overwhelming desire for something more. And what more could Middlebury College students possibly want, you ask? Time.

Midd kids, myself included, are impatient. We follow our set agendas of a combination of classes, clubs and — if time permits — culinary activity, and we can't stand if you do anything to change our schedules. We are compulsive e-mail checkers and expect responses within the hour. We operate on "Middlebury time" of running five minutes late to everything, but enter minor cardiac arrest when we have 200 pages of reading to do and our advisor is running 15 minutes late for our scheduled appointment. We pass each other on the sidewalks at absurd speeds, often not realizing that it was a close friend we were just cursing for his or her

only moderately-paced gait. We prefer the instant gratification of a McCullough make-out to the long and arduous — yet rewarding — process of genuine courtship. We take shots instead of sips and texts instead of talking. We hate to wait.

Lately, thanks to budget cuts and the general restructuring of campus, students have been forced to wait and believe me, our collective patience has been tested. I feel like there is always a go-to topic of conversation each week that you employ whenever you sense an awkward silence coming on. This week that topic was the lines: the line for treadmills at the gym, the line for chicken quesadillas in Ross, the line to see Al Sharpton ...

And how do Middlebury students respond to lines? First, we complain. Then, we read. We may also tap our feet, check our watches or text furiously, but we will do anything to keep from saying anything more to the person beside us than some pithy remark along the lines of "This is ridiculous." What ever happened to misery loving company? Or the shared human condition? Some of the best conversations I've had occurred while I was stuck in line for a flight or at a checkout counter.

I propose a challenge. (And believe me, this is a challenge for myself, as well.) The next time you are faced with a massive line, don't stress about the readings you haven't done or the "allotted social time" (I kid you not, I've seen it written in planners here) that the delay is cutting into. Instead, use the opportunity to get to know the person next to you. Sure, complain away — but when you're finished, talk about something else while you wait. Perhaps these budget cuts will teach us some much-needed patience (although a little less reading would also help to take the edge off). At least for now, Middlebury is struggling to wait on us, so, we need to take the initiative to wait on each other. And if you still cannot believe that "good things come to those who wait," at least believe that "new friendships come to those who commiserate."

H. KAY MERRIMAN '10 IS A FEATURES EDITOR.  
SHE HAILS FROM CANTON, OH.

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## Board of Trustees Meeting



All in favor of cutting funds for Quiddich, say "aye."

Elizabeth Zevallos

## Op-Ed: John Birnbaum Rethinking the Rev

I was appalled by the student body's overwhelming endorsement of Al Sharpton following his speech in Mead Chapel last Wednesday.

Although Sharpton pandered to the liberal agenda of the Middlebury crowd, the speech was non-confrontational. His message: to increase student advocacy and participation in politics, something few can disagree with. The Reverend's charisma and proclamations of social reform struck the student body into an immediate, but false, sense of comfort with his politics. Much to my chagrin there was a standing ovation at the conclusion of his speech followed by a slew of overly thankful question-askers (for \$20k, he should be the thankful one).

I am neither frustrated by MCAB's choice of speaker nor by the speech itself. My irritation is derived from the incredible ignorance of the student body. Apparently Midd kids do not know the real politics of the Rev.

Sharpton describes himself as a rabble-rouser who initiates discussion as a conduit for reform. In reality, he is a bit more controversial than what he would have you think. Over the course of his rabble-rousing career, he has called Jews "diamond merchants" and referred to a Jewish tenant in Harlem as a "white interloper," has advised a crowd to "off the pigs," and he has supported violent racial riots. He has even been sued for slander.

Additionally, in 2008 Sharpton owed about \$1.5 million in federal and state income taxes. His main organization, National Action Network, was investigated in 2007 for failure to make proper financial reports. It has also been suggested that several major corporations have donated to his non-profit in return for exemption from Sharpton's boycotts and riots.

Do Middlebury students honestly believe that he is a positive political force? Or were we so enamored of his celebrity status or by the way he stroked our liberal egos that we forgot his true character? Most likely the student body is oblivious to Sharpton's seditious career.

I cannot fathom why this bigot was received with such praise and appreciation. The truth is he is a divisive character who prefers to initiate hate rather than negotiate objectively. His politics are negative, and he functions under the guise of being a spokesman for social justice — a subject on which he has little understanding. He is no expert on the matter, and to treat him as such is naïve.

He is quite an orator, but let's put his words into the context of his actions. Next time a controversial speaker comes to Middlebury, let's be more discretionary and hesitant with the immediacy of our praise.

JOHN BIRNBAUM '11 IS FROM NEW YORK CITY.



## heardoncampus

I was answering a personal ad that read, "hot, sexy man wanted for a salaried position." I had no idea they wanted a singer.

— Scott Lawson, Orange Crush



## Op-Ed: Cailin Ross Love, Factually

February 14, 2009. I sit with a couple of single girlfriends at the Grille at 2:00 a.m. double-fisting chicken tenders and laughing about the absurdity of such a commercial holiday and its chubby toddler mascot. Clearly our society created Valentine's Day to make a bunch of money off cute couples and pathetic wannabe couples, awkwardly sipping champagne out of pink-tinted flutes and toasting to hopeful futures together. We laugh, glad to be free of the lacy hearts and delicate roses. Chocolate makes you fat, and who can afford diamonds during such an economic crisis? (If they're not real, spare me the cubic zirconia). We smile, but we're honestly thinking, "Another year and no bouquet? Not one rose dropped outside my room or a box of chocolates waiting on my desk? Will anybody ever fall in love with me?"

I came to college fueled with 18 years of chick flicks and Nicholas Sparks' novels. These sources insisted that the next time I drop my books,

my future husband will be the one to help me pick them up. They had me convinced that my lab partner would surely be taken by my beauty and wit, and that the guy I accidentally spill my orange juice on at breakfast is secretly the prince of a small European country. This prince, naturally, can't resist the charming way in which I dab OJ off the front of his shirt. We fall in love. I help rule his country. But here we are in second semester, and I've dropped my books and spilled beverages across Ross dining hall with as much charm as possible, and still, the only chemistry in the lab is that between carbon and oxygen. I am convinced that I am not the problem (my mom thinks I'm beautiful, after all), and I've seen many a smart, attractive, Middlebury student listed as "single" on Facebook. So what is it? I can only say, from my one semester here, that it is this campus. Our lovely, New England, liberal arts Middlebury is anti-dating, and frankly, that ticks me off.

Don't get me wrong — I'm not asking for a steady boyfriend. I'm not asking you to meet my parents. I

don't need expensive gifts on major holidays (although I will accept them). I would just like a simple, "Are you free this weekend?" to which I would reply, especially if you have nice bone structure, "Why, yes, I am." It doesn't even have to be a nice place that you take me. If you let me tell people otherwise, I'll accompany you to McDonald's. Partying with 700 drunk and lusty college students gets old. Pretending to be Shakira at the Bunker is only fun for so many Fridays (actually, that's not true, but for argument's sake, let's say it is). It would be nice to put on my prettiest flats knowing that nobody is going to throw up all over them by the end of the night.

Sure, there are those who have their significant others, proudly displaying online that they indeed beat

**For the most part, we Midd-kids remain unattached, content with trysts you don't write home about.**

Middlebury's "hook-ups only" rule. There are even those who start dating two weeks into freshman year (I think I missed some-

thing there, because two weeks into the year I was still deciding which wall to hang my poster on, let alone who to date). But for the most part, we Midd-kids remain unattached, content with trysts you don't write home about.

I know I'm not the first person to address that Middlebury lacks a dating scene. In fact, I was warned of the situation before my arrival. Very few people can claim intimacy besides those fun but romantically-challenged drunken escapades. "Random hook-ups, that's what we do," read a note to one Facebook group. But I was sure that I was an exception. I'd have a boyfriend, or at least a series of dates, by the time winter break rolled around. So, Middlebury men: why haven't I heard from you yet? If you're looking for a date, I'll be the one spilling orange juice down the front of some poor guy's sweater.

CAILIN ROSS '12 IS FROM CORNWALL, VT.

## Op-Ed: Bert Johnson

## The Future of the Republican Party is in the States

Six years ago at another institution, I invited a guest speaker to my state and local politics class who happened to be in the area, and who seemed like an interesting guy. Even then, Bobby Jindal had an impressive résumé. At 25, he had accepted an appointment to run Louisiana's hospital system. Two years later he became the executive director of a national Medicare reform commission. When I met him he was gearing up to run for a seat in the House of Representatives. I bet only a few students in my class had ever heard of him, but they were floored. At the end of his talk, one student raised his hand and asked, "Mr. Jindal, you're the best public speaker I've ever seen. What advice can you give us on how to improve our speaking skills?"

Next week, Jindal, now the Republican governor of Louisiana, will give his party's response to President Barack Obama's address to a joint session of Congress. This is a smart move by Republicans — not just because Jindal is impressive on his own, but because it shows that the party recognizes that its future course will be charted not from Washington, but from state capitals around the country.

Political scientists usually think of political parties as gangs of people who are trying to win office. In the United States these gangs are only very loosely organized, and anyone who claims the party label can be accepted into the club. The party program is therefore the result of a noisy, discordant clamor of voices from a sea of ambitious would-be party stars. Politicians with good ideas — those that hit a note with the public and can plausibly claim to

provide solutions to important problems — survive and thrive in this environment. Those with bad ideas fade into obscurity. Edward Carmines and James Stimson call this phenomenon "issue evolution."

Issue evolution, like its biological counterpart, depends on innovation. If they are to meet the needs of a changing electorate in a changing world, the parties themselves have to change and

**If they are to meet the needs of a changing electorate in a changing world, the parties themselves have to change and adapt.**

adapt. After the 2008 election, Republicans feel this need more acutely than ever. Parties are resilient organizations — no major U.S. party has gone extinct in over a century — but the direction of the party will be shaped by those who have the strongest incentives to innovate.

Republicans in Washington do not possess these incentives. Their reaction to the stimulus plan crafted by the Obama administration and congressional Democrats illustrates this point. Repeating their past arguments about the virtues of taxes and

the dangers of government spending, nearly every single Republican in Congress opposed the package. Let's be clear — this was a perfectly rational strategy from the point of view of Republican members of Congress. Their conservative constituents will reward them for it, and if something goes wrong with the plan's implementation — as it surely will — they can say "I told you so." But you don't retake the White House based on "I told you so."

Republican governors do not have the luxury of obstructionism. California's Arnold Schwarzenegger, Minnesota's Tim Pawlenty, Florida's Charlie Crist, Louisiana's Mitch Daniels and others have all had to try to find innovative ways to meet the challenges of the recession, rising health care costs, the tax structure, immigration, and other issues that will shape the future of American politics. The tough choices these governors make won't always make them popular, but whoever can come up with an approach to these problems that is successful, conservative, and distinct from what the Democrats are doing has a shot at vaulting into the party leadership.

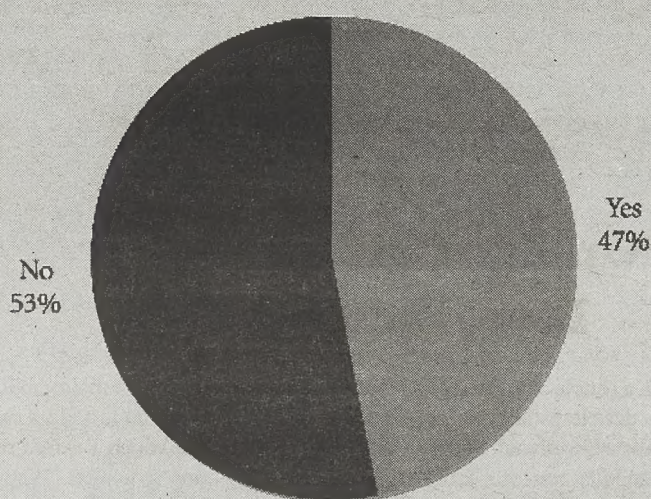
So pay attention to Bobby Jindal next week, and pay attention to his colleagues at the state level. The future of the Republican Party is out there somewhere, not on D.C.'s Capitol Hill.

BERT JOHNSON IS AN ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF POLITICAL SCIENCE.



## The Campus Poll

**Are you glad that the College provided Middlebury the chance to hear Al Sharpton?**



**Next week's question:**  
**How would you characterize Middlebury's dating scene?**

In order to make *The Campus* opinions section a more accessible medium, starting this semester *The Campus* will include a poll containing not only numerical data but also personal statements from interested students. Each week we will post the poll question for the next week's issue. Go online to [www.middleburycampus.com](http://www.middleburycampus.com) and select the response that best reflects your position on the issue. Feel strongly about a particular poll question? On the left side of the web site click on the tab entitled "Send a Letter to the Editor" and, in 150 words or less, explain your rationale for voting as you did. Everybody has an opinion. Share it.

## Waters to Wine: Mike Waters

### Don't forget your roots

Over the course of our collegiate years, we all (hopefully) grow more mature, more sophisticated and more discerning in our tastes. We shun Top 40 radio for indie music blogs, we trade department store garments for vintage store discoveries and we deny our previous populist tastes as awkward reminders of a shameful past.

For many, drinking tastes undergo similar changes — we move from 30-racks to home brews, from boxed wine to good vintages — and we treat our embarrassing alcoholic pasts with the same scorn we heap on boy bands or Beanie Babies. Some people delight in broadcasting their alcoholic maturity and look with self-aggrandizing pity on those whose liquor store purchases still include canned beer or boxed wine. With this, I take issue.

Some people question our maturity in light of our drinking habits or juxtapose the expense of our education with the price of our liquor. "I can't believe you drink that stuff" or "anything out of a can isn't worth drinking" are popular refrains. But these people are missing the point. No one buys Busch Light because they love the taste. No one drinks it with relish, pouring it dramatically into a red Solo cup to release its full bouquet. It isn't spilled onto dirty basement floors in order to let it breathe. We don't leave it in hot cars during the summer to let it age, and we don't pair it with food for true gastronomical ecstasy (besides, everyone knows that a cold Busch Light is best paired with pizza, 2 a.m. Grille food and several more Busch Lights). Busch Light, and all other light beers like it, is bought with such en-

thusiasm and in such large quantities because it is cheap, it is available and it gets you drunk.

Some will probably say that this is the problem: that we drink it exclusively to get drunk. This is a fine point, but arguments over taste or sophistication seem mostly irrelevant. One can appreciate good beers or fine wine and still enjoy being force-fed light beer by a room full of yelling twenty-somethings. I think that given the choice, the vast majority of us would sooner reach for a Vermont microbrew than a Bud Light, as we should.

But come late Friday night, nothing beats beer that can be bought in boxes of 30. There is a time and place for light beer, and we should stop disparaging those who

drink it.

As we all get older and more mature, of course we're going to look for new and better ways of enjoying alcohol. But that doesn't mean that we need to cast off our storied history of collegiate drinking, and we certainly don't need to belittle it.

A great beer tastes better after a couple nights of lesser fare, so by continuing both facets of our college drinking careers — the sophisticated on the one hand, the less-so on the other — we can actually heighten our enjoyment of both. It's nice to grow up and progress, but we shouldn't so willingly cast off our pasts, as they are still relevant and even gain importance as time goes on. Although in the case of boy bands, it's another issue entirely.

MIKE WATERS '10 IS FROM  
BEDFORD, MASS.

## Responses

According to Al Sharpton, it's not very nice to die and leave a poor preacher the arduous task of fabricating your life's contributions for all those at your funeral. As a preacher himself, he would prefer to not have to hallucinate that your passing through life mattered.

Sharpton's appraisal that advocacy and activism are what give life value was vastly oversimplified. His assumption that a life without activism is meaningless shows a lamentable failure to think beyond what he has chosen to pursue in his own life. Are the lives of people who have never marched, yet have forged strong relationships with a few family members, empty? Will the existence of those who have never signed a petition — or even cared that a petition exists — have been purposeless regardless of scientific discoveries they may have made or personal goals they've met?

There are many kinds of people in the world, and we all live in different situations, have different interests and hold different aspirations dear. How can a successful life be defined by a single parameter? That activism and advocacy are what give meaning to Sharpton's life does not mean that they are or should be the center of meaning for all.

— Miriam Johnson '10

Yeah, I thought he gave a great speech and was very funny and articulate. Also, some of the questions asked by students gave the ideas and issues (e.g. race on campus) the Reverend was speaking about a greater relevance.

— Matthew Yaggy '12

Yes, being that Middlebury is a place of higher learning, I think it's important that we are exposed to a variety of speakers and viewpoints. Although I think the College could've made better use of the money spent on Reverend Sharpton.

— Tim O'Grady '12

No. Considering the economy right now, I think that the money we spent to bring Reverend Al, no matter how much, would be better put to use towards someone's financial aid package next year.

— Nick Derrico '12

## Behind Enemy Lines: Andrey Tolstoy

### Green Eggs and Porn

When they're not busy polluting our server with oversized miscreants from Photoshop (a.k.a. seizures in a crayon box), staff at the Center for Health and Wellness Education are busy polluting our minds with propaganda most prepubescent would find intellectually offensive. When they should be the stewards of wise counsel for young adults (emphasis on both words), they instead resort to the peppy, outdated, prohibitive, sophomoric balderdash that poisoned most of our high school health education classes. This February, their undesired attention will be directed at our sex lives. It's "Let's Talk About Sex... Month" (sic).

The six-event program focuses on two main areas: giving women orgasms and shaming men into self-hatred. While the first topic is interesting, it can easily be researched a) theoretically, via the Internet and b) empirically, via the vagina. The second topic is what compels me to merit the HWE with a public response.

Robert Jensen, author of *Getting Off: Pornography and the End of Masculinity*, will be hosting two events to discuss the detrimental effects of porn on everything. Reviews of his book criticize its "in-your-face claim that male sexuality is vulgar, impersonal, and prone to gang rape," as well as its tactics: "... shame is not really a productive way of drawing anyone into the circle of your ideas, and I wish Jensen had found another way to invite people into the discussion."

During one of his talks, Jensen will be referring to a third event, the screening of *The Price of Pleasure*. The trailer is available on the film's website: it's a montage of the words "dirty," "sexy" and "money" intercut with low-quality porn and sound bites crystallizing two dominant points of view on pornography: the rhetorical "How many d\*\*\*s can you stuff into an a\*\*\*\*\*e?" and the sage "When you say anti-pornography is anti-sex, it's like saying anti-McDonalds is anti-eating." I

think every single individual subscribes to one of those schools of thought — and if they watch porn, probably the first.

The premise on which Jensen's musings about pornography are based is the so-called "Media Effects Paradigm," which roughly states that transmitted information will be uniformly understood and acted upon by anyone who receives it. Its research methods are questionable at best, since they tend to ignore the context of collected data and presume an audience's inability to find content incorrect or objectionable (so-called "negotiated readings"). Example: the Columbine shooting occurred because the two kids listened to Marilyn Manson. The MEP was popular until scholars decided it wasn't scientific, and rejected it in favor of less epistemologically flawed theories.

When three out of six events comprising "Let's Talk About Sex... Month" present ONE perspective on one very controversial subject — and the other three are unrelated — the opportunity for a balanced, adult discussion diminishes. HWE is sending an emissary from the academic world (a professor of media law, ethics and politics at the University of Texas, Austin, no less!) to stage a dialectic massacre of presumably undereducated youths. In the words of George HW Bush and Walter Sobczek, "This aggression will not stand."

I'm calling for an end to the ebullient cascade of bad ideas flooding us from the steps of Parton Health Center. Heads must roll. I urge my readers to attend Jensen's talk and expose him, in a civilized manner, for the pseudo-moralizing fraud that he is. (Of course, if the HWE wants to have an adult conversation, I'm open to dialogue. Shoot me an e-mail. We'll get together, play some cooperative games, work on our coloring books... you know how we roll.)

ANDREY TOLSTOY '10 IS FROM  
ST. PETERSBURG, RUSSIA.



## Op-Ed: Dave Small My Brain the Internet

Experience is the most important kind of knowledge. We lack experience. What we have are facts. We have Wikipedia and Google. The ability to access an inexhaustible source of information rests at the connection between our minds and the Ethernet cable. Without WiFi, without BlackBerry, without Google, what are we? We are lesser. The Internet is an organ that we cannot live without. It is a brain; its absence cripples us. The world moves at broadband speed but our brains cannot even do 56k.

What would life be like without e-mail? How would I know that there is a recall on peanut butter? Or that President Barack Obama wants me to have a house party to talk about the economic crisis? These instant updates and constant reminders keep us wired in. We never feel left out when our inboxes are fat and happy with e-mails from Facilities Services, SGA, the Office of the President and [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com), with its "Top 10 Best Deals in Electronics" or "Indie Music Spotlight." Without e-mail, I would never be reminded of this life-altering information. The idea that I would actually need to remember my meetings without the aid of iCal, Microsoft Outlook or Google Calendar is absurd. How is it possible to remember

all of these things with just the help of my simple brain?

Even socializing would be so much harder without the Internet. What would life be like without Facebook? I cannot imagine the monumental change that would occur if I couldn't be surprised by a friend request from the girl who picked her nose too much in sixth grade. My news feed tells me she is married. Her wedding pictures are posted and her mom is tagged, crying as her baby girl walks from the chapel, husband in hand, "Just Married."

I click the mother's name — a link. Oh, if only I were in her network. I could look at her pictures, her friends and her status. The link is a glorious invention. My cursor turns to a little hand, ready to grab at anything that pops up on my screen. The link is a net in which we can sieve a constant flow of information, or rather, diarrhea: a worthless void of content, yet insatiably intriguing. Without links, I am forced to know what I want to learn. I must have an objective, a goal, a destination, but alas, I do not. All I have is two hours before class to kill.

DAVE SMALL '11 IS FROM  
NEW YORK CITY.

**The Internet is an organ that we cannot live without. It is a brain; its absence cripples us.**

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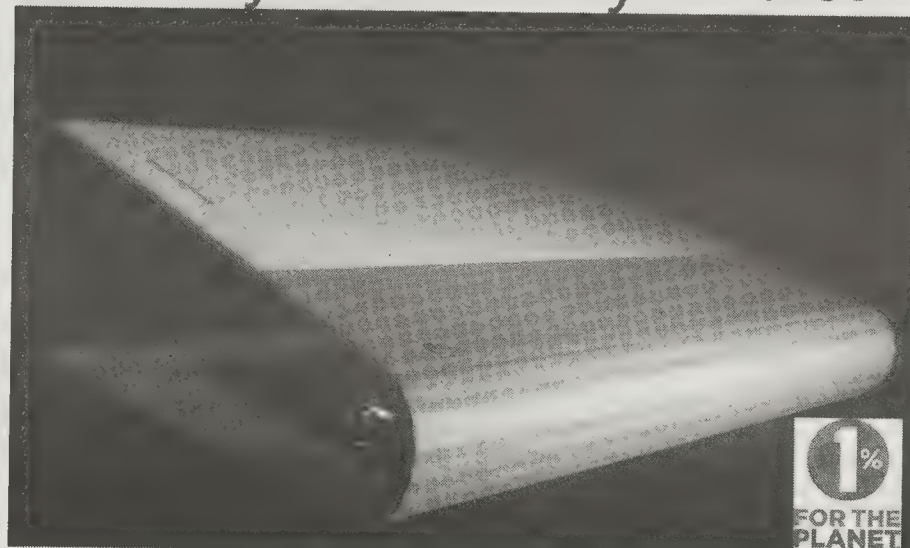
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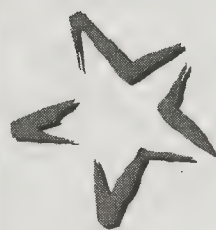
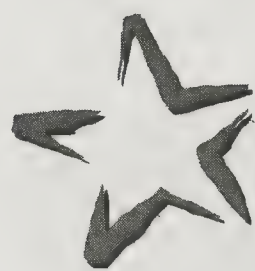


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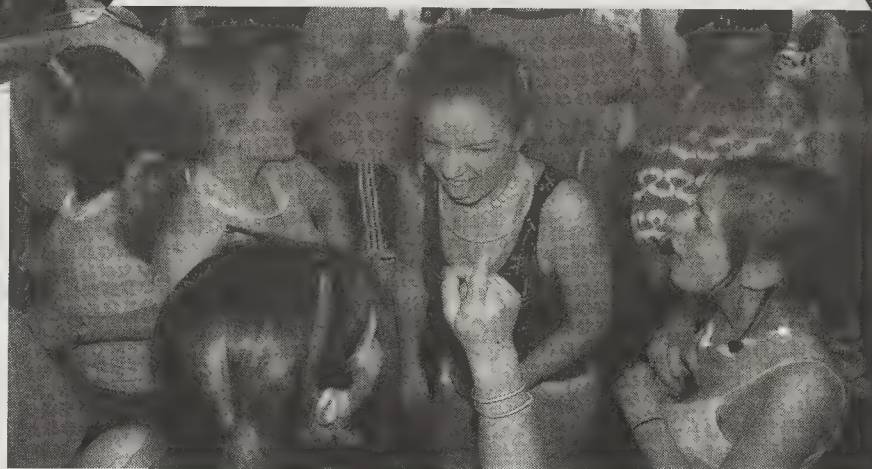


# They Built this City on Rock 'n' Roll: ★ Orange Crush



*Follow me, don't follow me  
I've got my spine, I've got my Orange Crush  
Collar me, don't collar me  
I've got my spine, I've got my Orange Crush  
We are agents of the free  
I've had my fun and now  
It's time to serve your conscience overseas  
Over me, not over me  
Coming in fast, over me. Oh, oh.*

— R.E.M., "Orange Crush"



All Photos: Ryan Scura

By H. Kay Merriman  
FEATURES EDITOR

It's a cold Thursday night in February. Ice lines the treacherous sidewalks and frost coats the windows. Where is the best place to get warm and blow off some spring semester steam during Winter Carnival weekend? McCullough, of course! Orange Crush is performing!

Orange Crush, the self-proclaimed "80s Dance Party Band," has become a fixture that marks the high-energy kick-off to Winter Carnival. Year after year, students — dressed in spandex, neon, leg warmers and sequins — fill the social space and dance and sing along to covers of '80s classics like Tommy Tutone's "Jenny (867-5309)," Dexy's Midnight Runners' "Come on Eileen" and Middlebury's personal favorite, Madonna's "Like a Prayer." But where did these guys come from? And is the love for everything '80s unique to Middlebury? Here's your chance, before you see them perform live tonight on stage (if you were one of the lucky ones to snag a ticket), to learn the story behind the pure throwback genius of Orange Crush.

Guitarist Jeremy Simonich, bassist Rich Yirga, drummer Tom Kielbania, Jr. and lead vocalist Scott Lawson came together to form an R.E.M. tribute band in 1996 in Chicopee, Mass. They named themselves after the R.E.M. hit song "Orange Crush" and also use the abbreviation "O.C."

Lawson always knew he would end up in music. "I got started because it's the only thing I really know how to do well that I actually enjoy doing," he said, but when asked for the real story behind the band's origins, Lawson admitted that there

was a bit of chance involved. "I was answering a personal ad that read, 'Hot sexy man wanted for salaried position,'" he recalled. "I had no idea they wanted a singer, and when I found out my first gig was in Hoboken, New Jersey ... I still wasn't sure."

Clearly, the group began with a good sense of humor. Sometime around 2000, O.C. started to move away from playing only R.E.M. "REM wasn't popular anymore," Lawson explained. Accepting that fact, the group turned to the songs they remembered from when, as the Buggles lyrically proclaimed, the "video killed the radio star." Lawson said the group's favorite songs to perform are "the ones that were played the most on MTV. We actually remember when there were all videos and no commercials."

The shift to '80s covers secured Orange Crush's fame. The readers of *The Valley Advocate*, a local newspaper of Northampton, Mass., have voted O.C. "Best Cover Band" for nine out of the past 10 years. The group was also recently inducted into *The Advocate's* "Grand Band Slam Hall of Fame" under the same category. But Orange Crush has received more than simply local recognition: they tour the central and southern United States and have opened for Reel Big Fish, Guster, Young Love and OK Go! Despite their growing popularity, O.C. continues to play a variety of venues from weddings to corporate events. Still, Lawson maintains the he likes the "big rock show" most of all.

The band agrees that Middlebury is one of their favorite shows. (And they are not just saying that.) "Several years now," said Lawson, recalling how long O.C. has been playing McCullough and how they joined the Winter Carnival tradition. "It started out as 'just another gig' for us, but has since become

something very special and one of our most looked forward to events of the year. We recorded a DVD of the 2008 show to feature on our demo."

Midd-kids are not the only ones who are proud to sport their sequins and neon spandex for Orange Crush gigs — the band is used to seeing period costumes at their dance parties and they fully support fans' dressing up. "We love it," said Lawson. "It keeps us feeling young."

Simonich, Yirga, Kielbania, Jr. and Lawson need to keep feeling young because they lead very busy lives. "We really don't take much time off at all," said Lawson, who described the group's travel dynamic as working "pretty well. To play for over a dozen years, and still get along? That's saying something," he said. "It's a good idea to take a week off now and then. It gets a little slow around March, so I'm going to Saskatchewan to get as far away from human life as possible."

Lawson and the rest of O.C. certainly deserve a break. They recently released a new CD under the group name "O Crush" entitled "80s All Over" that features their original material.

Aside from touring, reliving arguably the greatest decade in history and playing for hundreds of screaming spandex-clad college students, what is the best part of being in Orange Crush? "Looking back after every year and thinking, 'That was even more fun than last year,'" said Lawson.

So, Middlebury, tonight's your night. Brush up on your '80s hits, tease your hair, raid your parents' closets, dance your heart out and make sure that you stay until the end. As Lawson described the highlight of playing at Middlebury, "the very first encore will always be my favorite."

We are "agents of the free," and tonight, we've got our Orange Crush.

## Manage Your Mane

Learn who will lower your ears for an affordable price,  
page 14



## Surette Speaks

Host of "The Dating Game" reveals  
his personal preference,  
page 15



## Carnival Calendar

Pencil in your plans for a weekend  
of tradition,  
page 15



# Environment *peaces* together differences

By Kaylen Baker  
STAFF WRITER

To those who believe the end of the world is looming near — a reverberation of war, energy waste, extinct creatures, pollution, and general nihilism for humanity — do not give up hope. It often appears that real answers to these problems are too small to cause change, but when combined, they make a big difference.

This is the concept behind the lecture "Environment as a Bridge to Peace in the Middle East," which was given by Rabbi Michael Cohen, director of special projects of the Avara Institute for Environmental Studies (AIES), on Friday, Feb. 13. The meeting promoted the school designed to bring together students interested in studying, training and researching to become environmental leaders in the Middle East. Because the environmental problems in our ecosystem stretch across country borders and pay no heed to race or religion, peaceful cooperation is not only important, but crucial for success.

Located in Negev, Israel, AIES enrolls 20 to 30 undergraduate and graduate students per year, with approximately one-third of the student body being Jewish (from Israel), one-third being Arab (from Palestine and Jordan) and one-third from the rest of the world.

Although this may not seem like such a radical institute, simply getting there is a problem for some of the students. Cohen explained that Jordanians in particular receive pressure from their parents, friends and teachers not to go, warning them, "You're going to be stabbed overnight in your sleep!" Interestingly, many Jordanians are actually Christian, not Muslim, yet the lack of interaction between Israelis and strong government policies fuels their fears and misunderstandings. Many Jordanians are even blacklisted by the government when they return from AIES. Yet this seems a worthy burden in exchange for the students' ability to change perceptions among family and friends when they discuss their time abroad.

Living together at Kibbutz Ketura with people of different religions, races and backgrounds is one of the five reasons why AIES truly builds peace.

"It's a community of cooperation," Cohen explained. "There is a communal dining room, a communal laundry. There is a tolerance in pluralism, in living in diversity."

The desert isolation helps. In such a remote and barren terrain, students are forced to become their own entertainment. Without a city to escape to, without buildings and crowds to blend in with, each student eventually learns to face their issues with others.

Being in the Middle East is a necessary component to facing these issues as well. According to Cohen, in many cities in the Middle East, "Arabs and Jews often go to the same university together, but as soon as school is over, they won't interact outside," but return to their people and their own ways of life. AIES encourages students to learn about the aspects of their own world that may make them uncomfortable.

Having students from the rest of the world attend also helps break social barriers. Introducing outsiders into a place struggling with historically bitter conflicts what many Middle Eastern people have always considered a two-man show broadens the Middle Eastern perspective on diversity. Americans, like Middlebury students, become "ambassadors of our own culture, providing for many Middle Easterners a different view of us than what they may see on TV," said Cohen.

Each student is also required to take the Irmgard Baum Peace-building and Environmental Leadership Seminar (PELS), which addresses "the camel in the tent, the Conflict," as Cohen dubbed it. This is a class that focuses entirely on peace studies and the relationship between the different political and social spheres in the present region. "There is usually an Israeli narrative and a Palestinian narrative," explained Cohen, "most people only know one side. Many times, students leave the class hurt, angry, and crying." It is a painful

conflict to address, but because the students are there to attend school for a while, the seminar works. "What we have here is the luxury of time to work through issues," said Cohen.

The last key to peace-building centers on the environment itself. The state of the ecosystem is the same for Jews, Arabs and Christians. All of the students at AIES care about improving the polluted Jordan River, which flows from many countries into the Dead Sea.

To solve the environmental problems, coordination between countries — like unified rules on what can be dumped into the Jordan River — is necessary. Students are currently working on many different projects, including ways to improve air quality, renew and conserve energy and preserve biodiversity.

In the future, AIES hopes to attract more students and continue expanding its research, thereby providing trained specialists to solve cooperatively the region's ecological problems. AIES is a building block in the foundation towards a cleaner, more peaceful world. As the saying goes, why not kill two birds with one stone?



Sophia Perlman

Rabbi Michael Cohen explains how a concern for the environment can serve as a unifying tool in the quest for peace in the Middle East.

## Ben-official



by Ben Benson

With Valentine's Day and way too many chocolates in the rearview mirror, it's time to get back to at least thinking about eating right. (Those little chocolates in the heart-shaped box are only calorie-free for one day a year). Anyway, one thing all of those types of chocolate have in common is the macronutrient fat. There exists a negative connotation to the consumption of fat, but fat is a necessary nutrient with several benefits. Fat provides energy, is necessary for healthy skin and for the absorption of some types of vitamins. When dieting, a plan that purely minimizes fats is not a good idea. Fat helps the body feel full because it is digested slowly. Eating small portions of fatty foods may actually help you maintain your weight more easily than trying to fill up on lighter foods.

There are several different types of fatty acids and they are all made up of similar components. Not to bore you with the chemistry, but all fats have a backbone structure, often glycerol, and have chains of carbon and hydrogen with a carboxylic acid group at one end (making up the acid part of the fatty acid). Fats can be either solid or liquid at room temperature, depending on chemical makeup and shape. There are several different types of fats that humans consume — some beneficial, some detrimental, all harmful when consumed in excess.

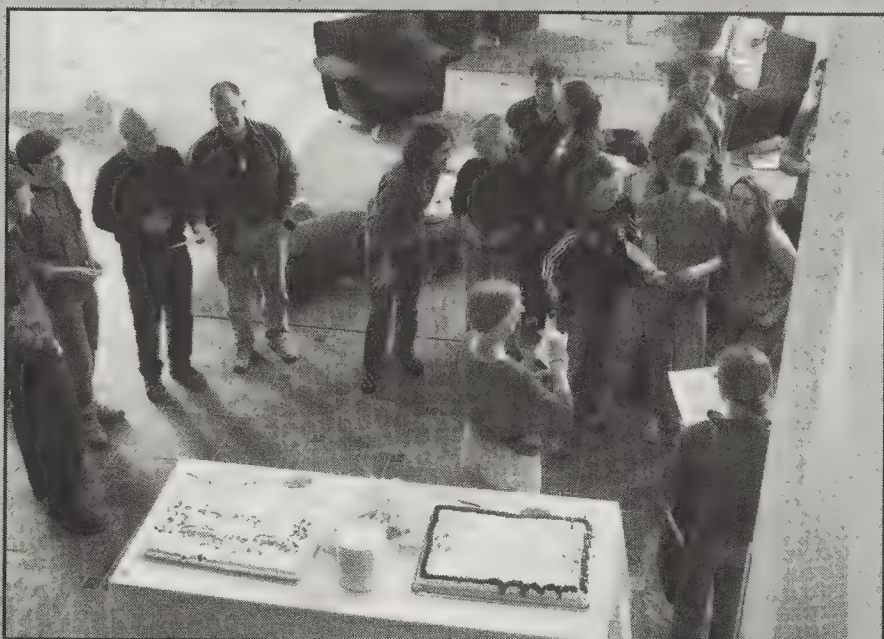
Unsaturated fats are the most beneficial type of fat and include mono-unsaturated fats, polyunsaturated fats and Omega-3 fatty acids. These fats, when eaten instead of more harmful fats, are known to lower cholesterol, reduce the risk of heart disease and decrease the likelihood of stroke. Fats are required for the digestion of vitamins A, D, E and K and regulate blood pressure, heart rate, blood clotting and the nervous system. When consuming fats, stick to unsaturated fats whenever possible.

Saturated fats and trans fats are detrimental and provide little benefit to the body. These two types of fats are more likely to be solid at room temperature, such as the waxy fat from red meat. Large consumption of these types of fats can increase risk of heart disease and blood clotting. Trans fats make products less likely to spoil and are often found in commercial baked goods and sweets.

When perusing the dining hall, there are several options for selecting unsaturated fats. For one, given the option of a red meat or a coldwater fish like salmon, choose the fish. Coldwater fish contains healthy levels of omega-3 fatty acids while red meat contains a high percentage of saturated fats. Another source of saturated fats is dairy products, such as whole milk and cheese. Choosing skim milk and eating another form of unsaturated fat like nuts is a much better choice.

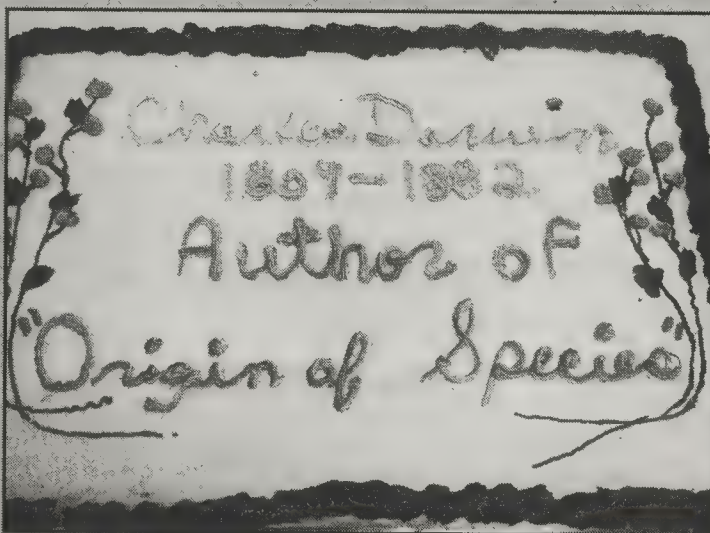
For those of you who avoid meats or eat salad for the majority of your meals, it's still important to be conscious of the fats you're consuming. The majority of oil-based salad dressings are made with vegetable oil. Vegetable oil is a saturated fat and should be minimized, while olive oil is an easy replacement for vegetable oil and contains monounsaturated fat. Try making your own dressing using olive oil, which is available at all three salad bars. Also, instead of feta cheese or bacon bits on top of a salad, try sunflower seeds or almonds.

Of course, too much fat of any kind is bad for the body. A healthy range of fat consumption is 20 to 35 percent of your caloric intake for the day. Oh, and ketchup is fat-free.



### The College Celebrates Darwin's 200th Birthday

Helen Young, associate professor of Biology, joined with evolution-loving students in McCardell BiCentennial Hall on Thursday, Feb. 12 to celebrate Charles Darwin's 200th birthday. Participants, including Dan Kane '09, Hannah Day '10 and Ian Evans '10 (all pictured, top right), sang a song, enjoyed cake and discussed the scientist's ideas.



— All Photos, Courtesy



# Locks that are 'hair today, gone tomorrow': Middlebury's amateur barbers try their hands, scissors at cosmetology

By Sarah Harris  
STAFF WRITER

In an ailing economy, pinching pennies seems a natural impulse. One of the best ways to save: hair care. Instead of marching into town for the usual \$10, \$15, even \$30 butchery, students can turn to their peers for a thrifty haircut. (Besides, in keeping with our penchant for flannel and Bean boots, there's something distinctly woody and bohemian about rockin' the home-do.) Here, *The Campus* inquires as to the training and expertise of Middlebury's aspiring young barbers.

## Taryn Tilton '11

"Once, when I was five, I cut all my hair off with paper scissors in an attempt to copy my mom's bob. Huge success." Tilton's distinct childhood foray into the world of haircutting has served her well in college, as have the elementary school values of sharing and teamwork — twice, Tilton has cut hair with the help of Lara Andrade '11, each taking half of the client's head. "It sounds like the worst idea ever — because it's so easy for it to become asymmetrical — but it works out great," said Tilton. "She has a better technique than I do, but I get more business, so tell me who you think is winning." Tilton gave an off-the-cuff description of her unusual technique: "Usually, I'm either really tired, possibly inebriated or using really dull scissors — it always turns out pretty good, though." Tilton has even taken to cutting hair in exotic locales, recently trimming Will Mackey's '11 locks on a MAIt Trip to El Salvador. "The ears are very cold. I don't have to worry about bed head," said Mackey of his new do. And on the atmosphere: "I was in a Ciudad Romayo under a bare light bulb outdoors where the bugs were going nuts. It was under a fence and the scissors were dull. My hair is still in El Salvador."

## Edwin Mitchell '10

Mitchell's haircutting skills sprung from necessity. "I learned to cut hair when I was a senior in high school," he said. My mother graduated from Middlebury back in the day and she warned me that there would not be anyone to

keep my hair looking clean when I got up here because there were not any barber shops that had much experience cutting black men's hair. So I began cutting my own hair." Mitchell's friends and family noticed his haircuts and allowed him to cut their hair as well. When he finally arrived at Middlebury, Mitchell's haircuts continued to catch people's eyes. "James Stepney '09 noticed how my hair was constantly lined up and cut and he asked where I got my hair cut," said Mitchell. "I told him that I did it myself and I told him that I would cut his hair. I cut his hair for free on the condition that he would be my walking advertisement and would tell guys to get their hair cut by me." The rest is history: Mitchell holds a monopoly on a niche market and a few years ago even cut a lightning bolt/mohawk into ReNard Roger's '07 then-green hair for a Riddim show.

Brandon Hawkins '11 attested to Mitchell's ability. "Edwin is a phenomenal barber who attends to the needs of those with ethnic hair on campus," said Hawkins. He gives me a shape up, which means lining up my edges and cutting my beard down. I leave Edwin's chair feeling like a man ready to rule and looking good doing it."

## Lingji Hon '11

Cutting hair, said Hon, "fills me with an inexplicable happiness." At age 13, after a lifetime of haircuts from her mother, Hon took her hair into her own hands. For two years, she performed a series of ad-hoc trims until ("I'm embarrassed to admit it") a photo shoot for Cosmogirl taught Hon a novel technique: layering. "The hairstylist was outraged and astonished that I didn't have 'layers,' and set to work straight away," she recounted. "As he casually cut away at my hair, talking to his Brazilian boyfriend on the phone the whole time, I scrutinized his movements and the effects they were having on my poor layer-less hair. So, between imitating him and my mother, I had a fairly good idea of how to cut hair." Her next client: an ex-boyfriend, who bore "an astonishing resemblance to Meg Ryan" that Hon deemed unacceptable. She took shears to the boy's head and, lo and behold, that's when she

"transformed Meg Ryan into James Dean, and everyone was astonished with what I had done." At Middlebury, Hon has parlayed her skills into a small business — lucrative, because, "like any college student, I seem to miraculously never have any money at all." Hon, a studio art major, likens cutting hair to sculpture, claiming it to be another "creative medium" resultant in "tactile satisfaction." And satisfaction generally: "along with painting, and black footed marmosets, it is among one of the few things that still fills me with utter happiness and contentment." Joe Stern '11, a returning client, noted that "the average person seems to be able to cut hair at least as well if not better than any 'professional' hairdresser I've ever had. Oh, and one time Lingji kept my hair and used it in an art project. Maybe you shouldn't print that."

## Ishaq Sadaqah '11

"I do not like the barbers in town," said Sadaqah. "I think I can do a better job than most of them." Sadaqah's clipped (no pun intended) remark is likely accurate, and his haircutting skills proved the result of United World

College's (UWC) mission to "unite people, nations and cultures for peace and a sustainable future." It was while attending Leaster B. Pearson UWC in British Columbia that Sadaqah, a Jordanian, and a Palestinian friend decided that it should be easy to cut hair. The two honed their craft on each other, although not without a few mishaps. "I am convinced now that when you learn cutting hair you have to make a big goof," said Sadaqah. "My biggest goof was cutting a big chunk of hair from my (I don't know the word in English but it is the hair that extends to the beard, it's both sides of the face next to ears, maybe it is called sideburns, but not sure?) and then I had to shave my head because otherwise I would look ridiculous. Since then I have not done any goofs." Sadaqah's varied and international clientele have included the likes of Hamza Usmani '10, Amro Shurrah '09 and Kent Diep '11. The talented coiffeur is interested to venturing into more unusual territory. "I've never done crazy cuts," he admitted. "I would like to try some crazy cuts, but have never been asked to and I would not do it to myself."



Laurice Fox

Pay a visit to a student stylist for a look that is fresh and a price that will not break the bank.

## Local camp seeks counselors



Andrew Ngeow, Photo Editor

Stephanie Loscalzo is the recruiter from Camp Morty, a residential summer camp that runs for six weeks in New York State. Camp Morty is looking to hire approximately 20 to 24 students for a variety of positions. The camp will run from June 28 to Aug. 19 and applications are accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis until June 1. Features writer Lia Gao spoke to Loscalzo on Feb. 10.

### The Middlebury Campus: So what exactly is Camp Morty?

Stephanie Loscalzo: It is a residential summer camp sponsored by the Westchester County Department of Parks and the Department of Social Services. Campers range from 8 to 13 years old and are brought to the camp through Social Services. One thing the camp does especially is reunite siblings who were separated through Social Services.

### MC: What positions are you looking to fill?

SL: We are looking to hire camp counselors and program specialists. We are also looking for a couple of interns as well, depending on the amount of interest.

### MC: What do the jobs entail?

SL: The camp counselors would mainly work closely with the kids, living in yurts with the campers. Counselors will

help facilitate and lead campers to their activities. The program specialists would run the camp activities, such as music, drama, nature education, athletics and high and low ropes. Prospective specialists should have experience in the department that they are interested in. We are also looking for lifeguards and a camp nurse. The interns would have slightly different tasks. We have internships for those who maybe don't want to be as hands-on and would like to see the administration side of things. Interns would be more like floaters, working with the kids when it's needed, running workshops on the weekends and shadowing the administration the rest of the time.

### MC: Is there any time off?

SL: Counselors will have 24 hours off every weekend, except for a two-week period in the middle of the session when we bring in additional campers. They can take this time to go to New York. Since we are located a mere 45 minutes outside of New York City, we provide vans to take counselors into the city on weekends as well.

### MC: Is this job voluntary or a paid position?

SL: While the county provides the camp and the camp itself is run by the Department of Social Services, the positions are paid ones. Counselors will receive \$2,000 for the summer and specialists will get \$4,000. The pay for interns is still to be determined and based on our financial situation, we may or may not provide a stipend. Additionally, all room and board is provided for as well.

### MC: Where can I find the applications?

SL: You can find the application online at [www.westchestergov.com/parks/campmorty.htm](http://www.westchestergov.com/parks/campmorty.htm). If there are any questions, applicants can also e-mail me at [Sz12@westchestergov.com](mailto:Sz12@westchestergov.com) or Jeff Main at [jmm0@westchestergov.com](mailto:jmm0@westchestergov.com). After applications are received, we will contact applicants within 10 days for interviews and to inform them of our final decisions.

## winners&losers

What's hot and what's not on campus and in pop culture? *The Campus* gives its weekly report.

### "25 Facts" on Facebook

Thanks to this new "Notes" fad, you can post your bizarre habits and dirty little secrets for all to see.

### The Bobcat Café

If 50 percent of Middlebury students marry each other, then 75 percent go to this restaurant on Valentine's Day.

### '80s Covers

The beginning of Winter Carnival means spandex, spandex and more spandex.

### Productivity

TIME estimates a loss of 800,000 hours of work to composing (never mind reading) these random facts.

### The Grille

February 14th is the one day of the year that a shared Dr. Feelgood does not qualify as a date.

### '90s Babies

Born in 1990, the arrival of the class of 2012 ushered out the era of Midd-kids "made in the '80s."



# Dating game host offers tips on love

## The Campus joins guru Will Surrette for a candid chat

By Rachael Jennings  
FEATURES EDITOR

On Friday, Feb. 13, the Center for Health and Wellness hosted the "Find Me Someone to Love Dating Game," a hilariously entertaining quest to find love at Middlebury. Will Surrette '10, who was a contestant last year and hosted the event this year, offered The Campus his opinions and thoughts on dating, love and everything in between.

**The Middlebury Campus:** You were a contestant in the dating game last year. How did you get involved?

Will Surrette: Last year Matt Groh '10 signed me up on my computer. Apparently, I was sort of funny. Jyoti Danieri, the director of the Health and Wellness Center, thinks I have potential and she wanted me in this again. She asked if I was interested in being a contestant or a host.

**MC:** Why did you decide to host?

WS: I'm an attention whore, I guess. I felt like it would be fun. That way I could be up there all of the time instead of part of the time. It got to be my show.

**MC:** What were the highlights of last year's show? The low points?

WS: The real highlights were people telling me their favorite parts afterwards. Dave DeMarkis '10 and Chris Wood '10 were in the back laughing and Chris was telling him how funny it was that I was swearing into the mic and then he said that halfway through, he realized I was wearing a bowtie for the occasion and I just lost it. I also enjoyed arguing with one of the contestants.

The low was probably that I was really nervous beforehand. I thought I was going

to come across as the weird fat kid trying to score a date with a chick. I was kind of sweaty.

**MC:** What about this year?

WS: The high was telling Cedar that the microphone is not a listening implement. The low — the fact that it seemed to drag a bit long.



Courtesy

Will Surrette, wearing merely a t-shirt, lounges for a deep talk about love, relationships and romantic movies on an uncharacteristically sunny February afternoon.

**MC:** What is your idea of the perfect date?

WS: It would start out at like 4:00 in the afternoon. It would be a picnic with a few people there — my buddies would be there. I would probably be eating turkey sandwiches. As the sun would start to set, we would all go off our separate ways. It would end with me and my date hanging out, holding hands. I'm sort of a sucker for that kind of thing. And then we would watch the stars.

**MC:** What are definite warning signs of a

date gone wrong?

WS: I've only been on a few dates and none went terribly. One of the flags I did get during one date was that she started making out with my friend.

**MC:** How would you, as a bachelor, give advice to Middlebury guys looking for love?

WS: Be yourself. Put yourself out there. I live in Stewart 410. I'm a good listener and I've been described as being a teddy bear.

**MC:** What is the perfect date movie and why?

WS: [laughing] Not *The Good Shepherd*. That went horribly. Probably *The Princess Bride*. I also recommend *Garden State*. It has a soft spot in my heart.

**MC:** What do you think your strengths are as a host for "The Dating Game"?

WS: I love attention, I can't deny that. People also tend to think I'm funny.

**MC:** Does the Dating Game really help romance at Midd? What do you think would help?

WS: It's a start. People are always going to get drunk and hook up, though. What would help is if people were more proactive, less shy, less phony, willing to get out of the rut of a Saturday-night hookup and hangover. People have to be more creative. Because there's no bowling alley in town. Also, there's no arcade.

**MC:** If you had to make a personal ad for yourself, what would it say?

WS: My lawyer has advised me not to answer that question.

## MiddSexGuy



by AJ Meyer

Why do we (men) love pornography so much? I know there are some females out there that enjoy it as well, but I feel like men like it a whole lot more. Why is that? Often it's pretty disgusting and you just feel plain dirty after watching it. But what does it represent for us? The Internet and the possibility of boobs and blowjobs only a click away is a dangerous reality for most men. I think it's because most porn represents what most men will never have and will never do. It also often shows what many feel ashamed of — the odd fetishes and dreams that, most likely, will never come true.

When does the pizza guy ever seduce the hot older woman by cutting a hole in the box? When does the curvaceous female boss force her job applicants to accept a blowjob? That stuff just doesn't happen. But we'd like to dream that it could. What was pornography like before we had magazines and websites, when an exposed ankle was deemed hot and indecent exposure? Have we evolved into a hornier race that constantly needs to have this sexual stimulation in our lives? Another aspect to the intrigue of pornography has to be the fetishes — there are so many out there, and I have to admit that the majority of them do seem very weird to me. But, some people must be into them — feet, bondage, furies etc. In a sense, pornography may represent a healthy outlet for these urges. Instead of going to a local brothel, men are now just using Google. Maybe it's a good thing.

I received an email earlier this year from a female asking about pornography in relationships. Here it is:

Recently I've been talking to a lot of my friends about how porn fits into a relationship. Some girls feel offended, some try to embrace it, others ignore it. Guys say that porn has nothing to do with their relationships, others say that they use it less when in a relationship and another group says they always use it the same amount. Does porn have a place in a relationship, or is detrimental (i.e., does it cause guys to have unfair expectations and girls to feel inadequate)?

In response, I would say that the use of porn in a relationship depends on the individuals in said relationship. But the above question has some different questions within it. Most guys watch porn, even if they are in a relationship with tons of hot, wild sex. I don't think girls can eliminate it unless it really offends them and they discuss it with their partner. However, whether porn has a "place" in relationships seems to be a different question. Many couples use porn as a sexual stimulant. Often, watching what you would like to be doing gets people in the mood, as well as offering some visual pointers about how to do certain things. If you are going to try this, make sure both individuals are willing and figure out what you'd like to be seeing. There are instructional videos, classy videos with some mood music and great acting (see "Pirates") and then there are cheaper, less classy films that are easily found. Try it out and see if you like it. Like all things, some do and some don't.

That's it for me this week. I really appreciate the question and urge you all to write to MiddSexGuy@gmail.com to tell me how terrible I am at writing this column or how you secretly love it.

## Winter Carnival To-Do List

### Thursday

**5:30 pm — Snow Sculpting**

Looking to revisit a simpler time, when "snow days" meant no school and endless fun? Whether your idea of great ice art is a basic Frosty or a scale replica of the Eiffel Tower, there's a place for you in this contest, which will be held on McCullough Lawn.

**8 p.m. — Bonfire**  
**8:45pm — Fireworks**

In keeping with the weekend's theme — "Heat it Up to Melt it Down" — Ross Hill will (literally) be on fire come nightfall. BYOB ... Blankets, that is.

**10 p.m. — Orange Crush**

What better way to christen the new Social Space than with a performance by Middlebury's favorite '80s cover artists? Big hair and visible sports bras are optional but encouraged.

### Friday

**9 a.m. — Ski Races begin**

The downhill team kicks off Winter Carnival at the Snow Bowl, with the nordic team starting at Rikert just an hour later. Bundle up, grab a group of friends and hop in a car (or board a public ACTR shuttle) to make the most of this oh-so-rare holiday from classes. Go Panthers!

**12 p.m. — Broomball**

Don't forget to bring your helmet to the lawn in front of McCullough!

**2:30 p.m. — Northern Lights**

Human dogsled, snowshoe, sledding and tug-of-war relay competitions rage on the Mead Chapel Hill.

**10 p.m. — The Wood Brothers**

You won't want to miss the decidedly unique sound of this blues/jazz spinoff of Medeski, Martin and Wood.

### Saturday

**3 p.m. — W Hockey v. Hamilton  
M Bball v. Conn. Coll.**

Two Middlebury teams are involved in important contests this weekend. Come show your support for women's hockey and men's basketball, who — as top finishers in the conference — are hosting NESCACs for the first time in College history.

**10 p.m. — Winter Ball**

Carnival concert programming finishes on a high note with the Ball, which will feature three different acts. The event's openers are Project DCQ, a live cover band and campus favorite. Next up is DJ Emmanuelle, followed by headliner DJ Milkman, an up-and-coming mash-up artist out of Southern California.

This year's organizers are going for a less traditional feel than in the past, so put on your shortest, sexiest winter finest and shake what God gave you. Beer garden will be open to the 21+ crowd, while younger students can look forward to delectable edibles.



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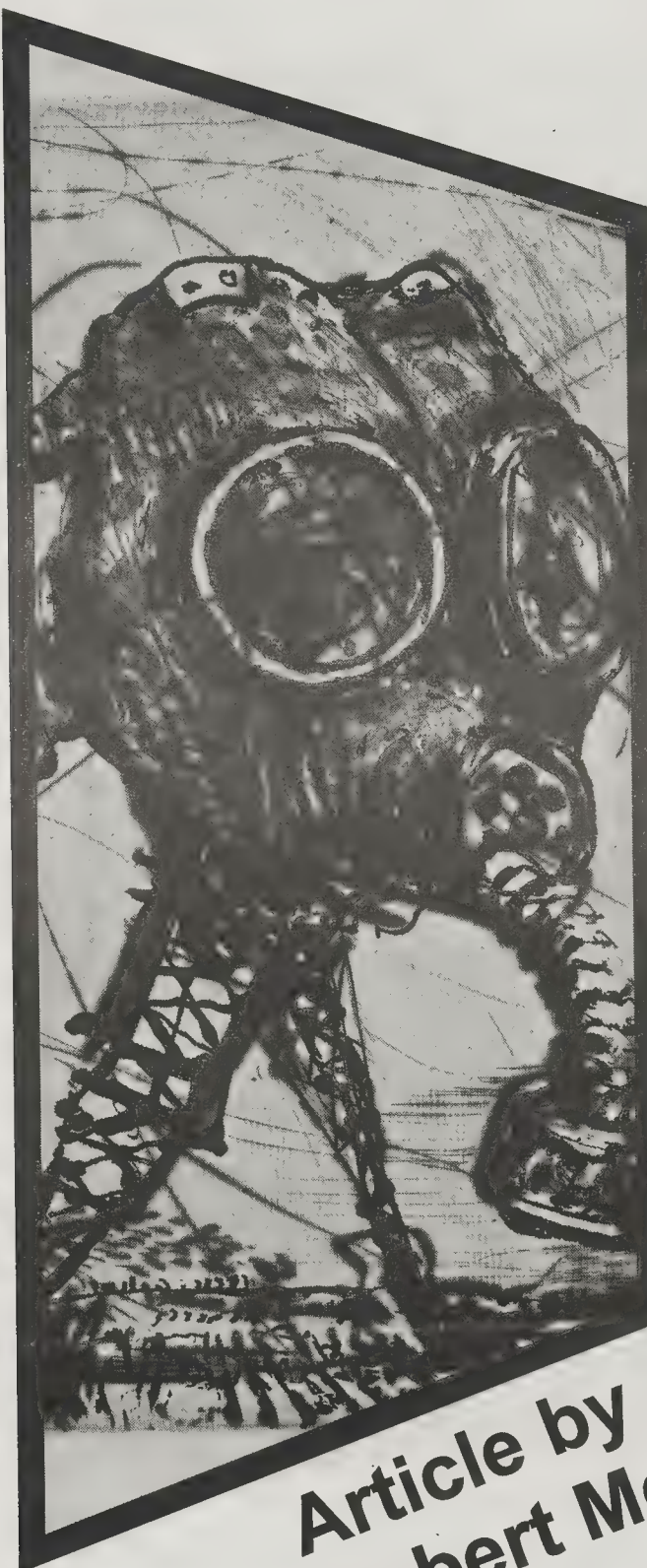
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# CONFRONTING HISTORY

Article by  
Robert McKay



*De que mal morira?*



Courtesy

A pastiche of visual and rhetorical styles, "Confronting History: Contemporary Artists Envision the Past" — the exhibition now on display at the Kevin P. Mahaney '84 Center for the Arts — features reinterpreted historical images confronting the issue of race in various print media. Featured artists include Enrique Chagoya, Ellen Gallagher, Robert Gober, Glenn Ligon, William Kentridge, Adrian Piper and Kara Walker.

Walker's series puts her own silkscreening atop enlarged lithographs from "Harper's Pictorial History of the Civil War." The artist has said that her earlier cut paper panoramas are "all about an absence," and the exhibit's curators suggest that the images are meant to fill in the blanks that previously stood behind her silhouettes. Walker's signature, darkly comic figures lope in silkscreen across the enlarged historical lithographs. The figures — all of them black caricatures — draw attention to their interloping status. They are in the foreground, and yet they often seem to be acting out their own scene, disconnected from the narrative in the lithograph. They are almost always in motion, striding from one side of the frame to the other, off on some other business like shadows blundering across a cinema screen. In "Bank's Army Leaving Simmsort," a bent figure drags what looks like a length of fabric across a long view of troops arrayed beneath stately trees. He looks intently ahead, out of the frame,

ignoring the scene behind him. In "Alabama Loyalists Greeting the Federal Gun-Boats," a girl kneels, as if looking for a lost trinket on the foreground of a scene of confusion. She too seems unperturbed by the events behind her.

In other prints, such as "Cotton Boards in Southern Swamp," the silhouettes join in the fun of their backgrounds: a white man and two simian blacks float in a skiff beneath branches dripping with rags of moss in a lithographic swamp where a giant, his arms similarly dripping, wades through the water. The figures in the boat are almost looking at him, but not quite. It's unclear whether they've failed to spot their approaching doom or whether the giant is simply ambling past like the figures in the other scenes.

In one of his visual remixes of Goya's satirical prints, Enrique Chagoya reiterates the familiar critique of instrumental reason's role in the creation of modern horrors. He surrounds Goya's snoozing figure with its original epigraph, "The Sleep of Reason Produces Monsters," and with images of warplanes, missiles, nuclear cooling towers, a satellite, three bats and two owls. The inserted images swirl around the original sleeping figure like dreams. The bats, typical nightmare critters, lend a playful air. The owls might symbolize reason, not asleep but awake. The technological wonders are, of course, reason's "monstrous" creations.

Ellen Gallagher's massive collection of jerry-rigged

magazine ads will delight lovers of Dada and Robert Rauschenberg with its texturally fascinating, punchy and playful reworkings. The vintage colors and graphic layout are pure eye candy, and the array of processes involved is a litany of virtuoso multimedia printmaking. Despite her alluring presentation, Gallagher's technique of obscuring the figures' eyes carry darker undertones of the media's tendency to dehumanize on the racial as well as the universal level. Tech support for the work came from the Two Palms Press print studio.

Glenn Ligon's "Runaways" uses authentic-looking nineteenth-century typography in fake runaway slave posters describing the artist himself, ostensibly to assist his potential capturers. The self-descriptions, always beginning with some permutation of "Ran Away — Glen, a black male," proceed into rather droll and anachronistic observations: "Very articulate, seemingly well-educated, does not look you straight in the eye when talking to you."

As diverse and intricate as the past it aspires to represent, "Confronting History" emphasizes humor as a way of processing traumatic histories.

The exhibit is on view until April 19th, and can be viewed Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and weekends from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m..

## editors' picks

# 21

**A Cappella Summit**  
Mead Chapel  
7:30 p.m.

The fifth annual Vermont A Cappella Summit returns to Middlebury with the Toronto-based choir Cadence and the New York City-based choir Duwende.

# 22

**April Wine**  
Higher Ground Ballroom  
8 p.m.

April Wine, a quartet of Canadian flower children, has released over 20 albums in the past 40 years, and they're still going strong. Higher Ground is just a hop, skip and jump up Rt. 7.

**George Clinton**  
Higher Ground Ballroom  
8 p.m.

"The Prime Minister of Funk," George Clinton, will bring his bizarre funkadelic R&B to Burlington, promising an unprecedented groove on an otherwise sedate Monday.

# 23

# 24

**Mardi Gras**  
Town Hall Theater  
7 p.m.

Spend Mardi Gras in authentic Louisiana fashion, with the zydeco band Mango Jam, cajun food, and outlandish costumes. Tickets cost \$25.





## for the record

by Jason Gutierrez

What a difference a year makes. I know a lot of people who were rather unimpressed with the musical output of 2008. Well, it's good to see that 2009 is starting off promisingly. I mean, Antony & the Johnsons, Animal Collective, Morrissey and The Pains of Being Pure at Heart have all tossed out excellent albums in the past month, but the best record I've heard thus far is by Vancouver-based band Japandroids, whose long-playing debut, "Post-Nothing," is set to be released April 28th via Unfamiliar Records. Under normal circumstances the amount of time between this writing and the album's official release would dissuade me from reviewing it, but it's available for free streaming online at Last.fm. Plus, it's flat-out too good to ignore.

It seems like the Pacific coast is raising fantastic rock duos like they're an industry unto themselves, and Japandroids join No Age at the top of this pseudo-minimalist rock music pile. They call their shouty, distortion soaked youth anthems garage rock. I call it rock for the recession. After all, Japandroids are two dudes, one guitar (with accompanying distortion peddle), and one drum set; no frills and no B.S. studio tomfoolery, just really solid songs and a sound that is fuller than you would expect from such a stripped down outfit.

"The Boys Are Leaving Town," the first song on "Post-Nothing," sets the tone of the rest of the album, as Brian King's guitar enters with distortion to spare. In fact, the sound is so similar to the beginning of a My Bloody Valentine song that you could be forgiven for thinking that Japandroids is really just a Kevin Shields side project. At least until David Prowse's drums kick in and its clear we aren't in shoe gaze territory. Prowse slams his drums like a champ, and he fills sound like an ex-hardcore drummer at work. The juxtaposition of Prowse's powerful drumming and King's dreamy guitar work make this album interesting, and their ability to make a two-piece band sound like a five-piece band is what makes it impressive.

The album's standout track, and assuredly its first single, is the joyous "Young Hearts Spark Fire." This track also highlights what separates Japandroids from fellow guitar/drum duo No Age. Where No Age chooses to emphasize their minimalism through experimental tracks, Japandroids casts it aside in favor of fuzzy noise that highlights the fact that, at their core, Japandroids songs are pop songs — pop songs about the conflicted emotions that come with growing up.

"We've finished our old lives/and I've finished off the wine," King sings as the song begins. He goes on to say, "You can keep tomorrow/after tonight we're not going to need it," before concluding with, "We used to dream/now we're worried about dying." Is it a little histrionic? Well, sure. But as someone who is staring unemployment, adulthood and the death of youth in the face, it's tough to hear King's lyrics and not feel that there is truth to what he says, despite the somewhat melodramatic tenor.

It would be easy to pigeonhole "Post-Nothing" as a minimalist noise-pop album or an all-too-frequently released pop-punk record about the pains of growing up, but to do so would be almost offensively reductive. "Post-Nothing" does contain all of those elements, but is so ingratiating with its hooks and interesting with its noise and distortion experiments that the album rises above any easy categorization. My advice is this: read to the end of this sentence, stop whatever it is that you are doing, go listen to the album on Last.fm, mark April 28th on your calendar and then, at the appropriate time, buy this album — because it's too good to not have your own copy.

## 'Leap' structures a formula for fantasy

By Michael Nevadomski

STAFF WRITER

Science Theater. No longer the domain of B-list movies, 'Leap' follows the recent theatrical fashion of attempting to bridge the gap between the sciences and humanities. Taking after such works as 'Copenhagen' and 'The Five Hysterical Girls Theorem,' Lauren Gunderson re-imagines the "plague years" of mathematician and physicist Isaac Newton, when he was forced to retreat to his childhood home from an outbreak of the bubonic plague at Cambridge. Originally premiered in February of 2004 at Theater Emory in Atlanta, Gunderson takes liberties with history and biography and poses a "modern mythology" of two ageless, mysterious "muses" (Maria and Brightman) that visit Newton (and every other historical genius) to aid the creative process.

"Many of my plays are biographical, so I have that person's life to go on as well as the time period they're in," explained Gunderson in the *Los Angeles Times*. "But it's not like a documentary. As the dramatist, I can say who the story is really about and how we are going to tell it."

That author's presence seems to be the play's only flaw: "A lot of my pieces are science- or history-based," said Ms. Gunderson. "So, most of my creative development starts with research." Long tracts of theory collide with attempts at an occasionally irrelevant, almost Stop-ardian metatheatricality, and the play devolves into clever moments of showing off. Some of the best moments are ruined by musical chimes or onslaughts of needless heroic couplets that twist the audience's willing suspension of disbelief into dramatic tackiness. Much, regrettably, is left unexplained. Who, for example, actually are Maria and Brightman? Muses? Angels? Much like the general theme of the play (that not everything may be discovered by one man, even Newton), we are left tantalizingly and annoyingly in the lurch.

Script issues aside, this was a phenomenal production. Ross Bell '10, who hitherto has worked principally with lighting design, makes his first outing as a director with this production, and quite a fortuitous start. The actors' chemistry was (if I may indulge a pun) explosive. The sisters, Maria (Lucy Faust '09) and Brightman (Steph Spencer '09), play off one another perfectly, and the relatively minor roles of Lucas (Ken Grinde '11) and Hannah (Lauren Fondren '09), strengthen and humanize an otherwise heady play.

Charmingly preoccupied with her own thoughts, Faust as Maria nevertheless exudes a tempering energy present in the long exchanges between her sister and Newton. Faust has impeccable delivery, managing somehow to convey the extraordinary complexity of be-



Grace Duggan, Photo Editor

Powerful performances by leading senior actors pulled the audience into a fantastic world.

ing immortal and perpetually twelve years old. This says nothing of her comedic timing, which is flawless: in the discussion on irony, she interjects, "Have you ever seen an ostrich?" in such a way that charms, humors and illuminates much of the heavy-handedness of the script.

Foiled against Maria is Spencer as Brightman, who sent the audience rollicking through fits of passion and almost reckless abandon. One can't help but admire such *sprezzatura*: she flings out theories, technical terms and languages (Greek, Hebrew, French, but not Latin) like familiar things she found in her pockets — easily and casually. Seeing her convincingly and intelligently tell off Will Damron '09 in multiple languages, one would think she could do it to anyone on the street.

Yet it was Damron that impressed most. Last seen as Pale in *Burn This*, one initially might expect him a little too hunky to portray a young Isaac Newton. Using his build

to his advantage, he projects a powerful body language that plays into the character's development, showing us frustration, alienation and the sheer social ineptitude of his character by roaring the muses out of his room, or declaring, "I am a genius!" to his pushy, parasitic mother. But he never neglects Newton's delicate handling of a prism or the quiet moments of silent work that ground the character's sense of high moral purpose. These moments in character work mark not only fine direction, but complex consideration of a potentially flat personality. In short, Damron humanizes an enigmatic and aloof historical figure, even if his hair wasn't gray in the final scene.

Don't worry, though: despite the success of this and other science-based plays — i.e., 2007's 'Five Hysterical Girls Theorem' — the English and Theater Departments aren't moving into McCardell Bicentennial Hall. Yet.



### CALIFORNIA SILVER SCREEN DREAMING

With the youngest director and producer in Tribeca Film Festival history, "Palo Alto, CA" caused a considerable stir on the independent-film scene despite its conventional structure focused on the perennial "coming-of-age" plot. Shot on location, "Palo Alto" offered inspiration for burgeoning college filmmaking. UCLA student and producer Daniel Engelhardt held a question and answer session after the screening.



Courtesy



# Mezzo-soprano serenades for V-day

By Andrew Throdahl  
ARTS EDITOR

It seemed auspicious that mezzo-soprano Christianne Stotijn, with her Botticellian locks expressively scarfed over her gown, performed for the Middlebury community on Valentine's Day at the Kevin P. Mahaney '84 Center for the Arts. Her program was as befitting as her appearance, with a variety of Romantically oriented, or at least Romantic-era, songs by Schumann, Brahms and Tchaikovsky.

Schumann's 25-minute song cycle "Liederkreis," also known as the Eichendorff *Lieder*, occupied the first half of the program. Last year Middlebury was fortunate enough to hear "Liederkreis" performed by the baritone Christian Gerhaher, who brought a keen dramatic sense to the cycle. Stotijn, with her remarkable accompanist Joseph Breinl, performed the work in soft, nocturnal hues, shaping the individual songs' introspection and poignancy. While "Liederkreis" can be performed by men and women with equal success, certain movements do seem designed for men. In "Waldeggespräch," for instance, a gallant man accosts a woman who turns out to be the witch Lorelei. The lyrics and accompaniment seem suited for a great big hunk of vocal manliness. Nevertheless, Stotijn managed to sound like as much of a hunter as her range allowed, and then in turn like the castrating seductress Lorelei — which is a testament to her deft control of tone and color.

Throughout the evening Joseph Breinl impressed with his soft playing. Anyone who has studied piano will agree that playing the piano *piano* can be an excruciating and thankless obstacle. Breinl consistently managed to distinguish *pianos* from *pianissimos* and *pianissimos* from *pianissimos*. In "Waldeggespräch" Breinl executed an evocative fade-out, and in the final song, "Fruehlingsnacht," made the repeated chords as airy as Schumann indicates. I never felt like Breinl was holding back too much, or was being so meticulous that he sounded stiff. Gerhaher's accompanist Gerold Huber, on



Courtesy

Mezzo-soprano Christianne Stotijn performed a program of *lieder* on Valentine's Day.

the other hand, was as tense as a neurosurgeon, and indeed he operated on Schumann's score with a sterile scalpel.

The set of seven Brahms *lieder* that opened the second half were played with much the same thoughtfulness as the Schumann. It seemed that Stotijn was a bit more warmed up for the Brahms — her high notes had more ring. Breinl was thoroughly at ease in Brahms' more complex accompaniments, particularly in the stormy "Verzagen" and "Auf dem Kirchhofe."

After a brief pause, the duo turned to Tchaikovsky's settings of Tolstoy and Goethe texts (among others). Some of the songs, particularly "Had I only known," had the characters of operatic arias, and a few seemed to recall the lengthy "letter" aria in Tchaikovsky's opera *Eugene Onegin*. Perhaps I am only making this association because the music suddenly became so extroverted and schmaltzy after hearing the relatively

antisocial personalities of Schumann and Brahms.

Stotijn released an album of Tchaikovsky entitled "Tchaikovsky Romances," but with pianist Julius Drake instead of Breinl. Breinl was far more inspired and passionate Saturday night than Drake is on the CD, particularly in "The Sun has set" and "Whether day reigns," although he took roughly the same tempos.

Stotijn's voice reminds me of that glass-shattering soprano of the '80s and '90s, Jessye Norman, who had a similarly lavish tone and regal presence. More importantly, Stotijn is an intelligent performer, and I hope that she collaborates with the equally capable Joseph Breinl for more of the *lieder* repertoire. Stotijn has released three albums, including the aforementioned "Tchaikovsky Romances," which can be purchased on iTunes or rented from the College music library.

## Negotiating budget cuts artfully

By Melissa Marshall  
ARTS EDITOR

Students are probably more upset by a locked door standing between them and a Saturday afternoon Dr. Feelgood than the postponement of a Museum of Art exhibition, but whether they are aware or not, the vibrant Middlebury arts community must stare down the black-and-white margins of operating budgets like the rest of the College.

And while it is far from selling off its collection, as Brandeis University announced last month, many departments and programs are trying to survive an economic climate notoriously unfriendly towards the arts.

"We've been asked to look at a core mission and look how we can reduce expenses and operate as effectively as possible," said Museum Director Richard Saunders.

These reductions include such small steps as cutting back advertising funds and looking at electronic alternatives instead of paper printing to the more dramatic reconstruction of exhibitions.

"We try to plan at least three years in advance when it comes to exhibitions. We have fortunately not had to cancel any exhibits, but there is one show we would very much like to do at one point, which we have decided to postpone because we think it's not the right climate to pursue it as it would involve a lot of travel," said Saunders. "We wanted to assemble the 'Middlebury Families Collect' exhibit that would showcase works owned by Middlebury alumni, parents and friends of the College, but in order for that show to be organized someone has to look at all of those works and make decisions. Instead, we've replaced it with an exhibition that is going to

celebrate the past 40 years of gifts to the museum from our Friends of the Art Museum program."

As shown in the Museum's thoughtful assemblage of a new, more financially feasible exhibit, innovation and creativity flourish in the College's art programs and departments on the economic level as well.

"I have been imaginative and there are some prospects of inexpensive and very talented performers," said Director of the Performing Art Series Paul Nelson.

And it's not just the coordinators that have to be flexible — artists as well are contorting themselves to fit the economic condition.

"From a programmer point of view and from the point of a view of a performer, there is a realization of an economic crunch, and I have renegotiated contracts to lower fees," said Nelson. "The whole arts economy is impacted. One of the consequences is that artists are being more flexible about fees."

And while the College will still host big names — including a performance by Thomas Hampson, the Metropolitan Opera baritone — and headliners such as the Emerson Quartet, the Takacs Quartet and Paul Lewis, students can expect a definite shift from established giants to more under-the-radar artists.

"We will surely present fewer very high-end performances — world's greatest pianist kind of thing — than this year," said Nelson.

At \$5 per ticket in a struggling economy, it is surprising that more students do not take advantage of such renowned performers as cellist Sophia Shao who took the stage at the Kevin P. Mahaney '84 Center of the Arts (MCFA) in January — an attendance trend that will hopefully improve in the coming

months.

"We have a heightened awareness now of our great privileges," said Dance Department Chair Penny Campbell.

And while such sacrifices as the loss of a noon cup of coffee with the closure of Rehearsals Café have been unpopular, an effort to retain the essential purpose of the MCFA seems to be a priority.

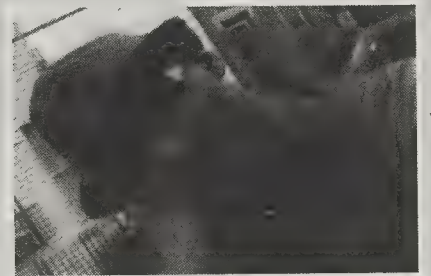
"One of the things I am appreciating of the cutbacks at the moment, is that the core mission of the departments and programs — the education — is being protected to the last," said Campbell.

Still, larger cuts than just a lunch spot are on the block.

"A program that we send our students to every other year is called the American College Dance Festival Association. Usually when Middlebury attends at least one of the two pieces is elected to become part of the gala, and very often that piece is selected to go to the National Dance Conference," explained Campbell. "But it's pricey — it's a steep registration fee, and you have to pay for accommodations and transport," she continued.

As the effects of the economic crisis are sure to be felt in upcoming fiscal years, hopefully the College art community will continue to be inventive in its strategy to hedge costs while still cultivating challenging and intricate performances, lectures and exhibitions.

"The arts, not necessarily at Middlebury, but I think out in the larger world, have always been struggling," said Campbell. "I would say, sometimes, being under a kind a pressure stimulates creativity," said Campbell.



## The Recessionista by Christian Morel

I believe I speak for everyone when I say that spring can be a very liberating time of year. We will be shedding the coats and sweaters that have swallowed our shirts and belts. I personally look forward to leaving my woolen items at home and putting together glorious combinations of beautiful button-down shirts, pretty pantaloons, sensational skinnies and show-stopping shoes. If you share my excitement, then I suggest you pay attention. I plan to teach the fundamental tricks to developing the perfect look for the beautiful days to come. I do not intend to tell you what needs to be purchased from our friends in Burlington, but instead encourage you to explore your drawers and closets and take note of stylistic choices you have already made. This will allow you to develop a flawless, aesthetically pleasing outfit every day on your own terms.

My sartorial philosophy is that we all hold the potential to produce beauty each day within our own aesthetic realm. Some of us like to wear skinnies and others like to wear loose high wasted slacks. We all have the right to wear what we want; however, we must remember to dress with precision and simplicity or exaggeration. Allow the clothing to be an extension of your personality.

"This column is not intended to tell you what should and should not be worn. I hope that by reading each article, you will have the ability to make this decision yourself. The creativity and patience needed to create a masterpiece each morning come with time. We all have to start sometime. Why not start now?"

On average, I spend about 15 minutes making my outfit for the day. I consider it a ritual, and in doing so I condition myself to pay close attention to what I will be presenting to the general public each day. Is this not what we think about every morning? "What will I wear to express how I feel today?" or "Who will I see today?" These are some but not all of the questions that I ask myself every day. A fun way to create this ritual is to make a game out of it, because, like in a game, we can either win or lose. However, we should not consider losing an absolute failure. As I said before: we all have to start sometime, but, most importantly, we all have to start somewhere.

I remember a time in my life when I did not care about my appearance and thought that spending more than five minutes creating an outfit was ridiculous. Yet, as I would place more thought into each outfit I began to notice changes in my day. I received compliments on my appearance, which then helped me to develop more strength and control over my day. I think we can all use a little control over our day, considering how chaotic the life of a Middlebury student can be. I challenge you to develop a morning ritual in which you take about five or ten minutes to create your outfit for the day. Make sure this outfit is comfortable — and by comfortable I mean emotionally, not necessarily physically. Let us not forget that sometimes fashion equals pain. Give this ritual a three-day trial run and see what happens.

Spring is the greatest time to start this process. It is warm enough to show our skin and brisk enough to layer. Let's toss our heavy winter apparel into the back of the closet and pull out the short sleeves, short shorts, and shoes that we have been dying to wear. Consider this spring to be a time of creativity and exploration. Let's impress others and at the same time impress ourselves. Do not fear your creativity. I will be here every step of the way to fill you in with fun facts and tricks to help you reach fashion nirvana.

You have been given your homework assignment, readers. This will be the first of many fun exercises that will be aimed at making you look and feel awesome. I hope you enjoy your training, my little fashion padawans. Dress you later.



# Men's basketball ready for postseason play

## Panthers set to host NESCAC tournament for first time in school history

By Jeff Klein  
SPORTS EDITOR

The storybook season the Middlebury men's basketball team has put together so far has been almost entirely the result of hard work, clutch performances and a strong team bond. So you'll have to forgive the Panthers if they got a little lucky this past weekend.

After a thrilling 78-76 double overtime victory at Trinity this past Friday, Feb. 13, Middlebury saw its 17-game winning streak

### MEN'S BASKETBALL

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13 (DOUBLE OT)

Middlebury	78
Trinity	76

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14

Middlebury	64
Amherst	71

come to an end when it fell to Amherst, 71-64.

However, Amherst's unlikely setback to Williams the night before, coupled with Middlebury's victory over Trinity, means that the Panthers finish the regular season with the best record in the NESCAC. Accordingly, they will host the upcoming NESCAC tournament for the first time in school history.

Middlebury begins its quest for its first-ever conference championship when it takes on Connecticut College this Saturday, Feb. 21, in a quarterfinal matchup in Pepin Gymnasium.

"It means a lot to be the number-one seed in the NESCAC," said Aaron Smith '09, who scored 19 points on the weekend. "We've worked so hard throughout the offseason and regular season to get to this point. Now it's a matter of using our home court advantage to finally win a championship."

"Grabbing the top seed in the NESCAC tournament is a great accomplishment," added Kyle Dudley '09. "Every year this conference is very tough. Finishing the conference regular season 8-1 is terrific and puts us in a great po-

sition to play at home, where we have not lost yet this season."

The nailbiter against Trinity provided a foreshadowing of the drama and excitement that Middlebury will most definitely be a part of come tournament time. A close game in regulation went into overtime when Trinity's Chris Applegate scored on a put-back with nine seconds remaining.

In the first overtime, things looked bleak for the Panthers when the Bantams established a six-point lead with less than a minute to play.

However, on the brink of its first conference loss of the season, Middlebury demonstrated the scrappy, resilient play that has come to epitomize its season. Aided by two layups from Ben Rudin '09 — the second set up by a steal from Dudley — the Panthers ferociously battled back and forced a second overtime.

With renewed vigor, Middlebury made the most of its new opportunity. After briefly falling behind 76-74 in the second overtime, the Panthers held the Bantams scoreless for the remainder of the contest.

Free throws by Tim Edwards '09.5 and Jamal Davis '11 knotted the game up at 76 apiece, setting the stage for an ESPN Top-10-worthy finish. With the clock ticking down, Middlebury's stifling defense forced Trinity into a long three-point attempt that missed. Andrew Locke '11 rebounded the ball, quickly passed to Rudin and sprinted down the floor, where he got the ball back and laid it up with three seconds left for the game-winner.

"The finish at Trinity was incredible," remarked Locke. "Rudin had been driving and hitting the five-foot fadeaway all game, so when he drove the lane in the final seconds, my man doubled and Rudin saw the open pass and I was able to finish. It was a great moment, exemplifying the unselfish attitude our team's had all year."

Asked about the excitement of the Trin-

ity game, Dudley did not mince words. "The Trinity game was the greatest game that I have ever played in," he said. "The win really showed this team's heart and character. Down six with 45 seconds to go in the first overtime, the team just kept fighting and never gave up."

The thrilling win was clearly cause for celebration, but Amherst made sure to keep Middlebury focused the following afternoon, as the two teams became locked in a dogfight.

The game see-sawed back and forth in the first half, as each team would gain a small advantage only to see the other team come back. With Amherst up 37-34 in the waning moments of the first half, Rudin scored five points to give Middlebury a 39-37 lead at the intermission.

Amherst seized the momentum at the start of the second half, as the Lord Jeffs opened up a five-point lead just minutes into the latter stanza. The lead grew to nine before Middlebury responded with back-to-back and one opportunities, which cut the Amherst lead to 54-52 with 9:17 left in the game.

Middlebury could not grab the lead, however. The Panthers closed to within three points with less than a minute remaining, but a shot by Rudin that would have brought them closer rimmed out, and Middlebury had to resort to fouling. Amherst drained its free throws to secure the win, handing the Panthers their first — and only — conference loss of the season.

"We learned a lot from the Amherst game," Smith reflected. "On any given night, if

we don't play well, we can lose. We are going to use that feeling of losing to fuel us through the NESCAC tournament and into the NCAA's."

So now the Panthers prepare for Saturday, as they look to extend their run of success into the postseason, starting with Saturday's quarterfinal matchup against the Camels of Connecticut College. While Dudley asserted that "our only concern right now is Connecticut College," the Panthers would love to get another shot at Amherst later in the tournament.

"Hopefully we'll get a chance to play Amherst again at Pepin," said Locke. "We don't want there to be any doubt that we're the best team in the NESCAC."

The Panthers have every reason to be confident heading into the playoffs, especially the seniors, who have been responsible for the immense growth of the Middlebury basketball program since their freshman year. In just four years, Middlebury has gone from missing the

### NESCAC TOURNAMENT: MEN'S BASKETBALL

SATURDAY, FEB. 21

1. Middlebury
8. Conn. College
4. Colby
5. Bowdoin
3. Williams
6. Bates
2. Amherst
7. Trinity

SATURDAY, FEB. 28


SUNDAY, MARCH 1


Champion

Note: Teams will be rebracketed based on quarterfinal results.

Champion receives automatic bid to the D-III NCAA tournament.

NESCAC tournament, to hosting its first ever home playoff game, to winning its first ever playoff game and making the NCAA tournament, to finishing first in the conference and hosting the NESCAC tournament.

SEE BASKETBALL, PAGE 21

## Drivers keep rink running at top notch

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

and changing the blade occasionally." The seemingly basic upkeep, however, is merely a fraction of the work that the pair puts into the rink. The title of 'zamboni driver' only describes a small facet of their duties. Atkins and Pratt also oversee the care of the glass, benches and locker rooms.

The intricate roles Atkins and Pratt occupy transcend the rink as well. The crew handles public relations work with the coaches and teams — e.g., making sure they are comfortable and taking the teams to the equipment room. Both men are also in charge of the scheduling for the Winter Carnival ice show and practice times on the ice for the hockey teams.

The dedication required to keep the rinks in top form is admirable.

"I come in at around 4:30 a.m. on game days to edge the side of the rink," said Atkins. "We have to negate a 'bowl effect' on the side of the boards. We want the puck to go around the boards smoothly."

Despite the seeming simplicity and excitement associated with a ride on the zamboni, the job certainly entails a great deal of responsibility. When asked what distinguishes a great zamboni driver from a good one, Atkins responded, "Practice. It is all about confidence getting the job done so a smooth sheet of ice gets set in a timely fashion."

No one can knock Atkins and Pratt for their abilities as drivers and maintainers of the rink. They take an intricate craft and turn it into a display of minimalism and finesse.

## Women's hockey falls to Lady Jeffs

By Alex Lovett-Woodsum  
STAFF WRITER

The seventh-ranked Middlebury women's hockey team was on the road again this weekend, dropping its first game on Saturday, Feb. 14 with a tough 5-0 loss to the fifth-ranked Amherst College team. The Lady Jeffs' wins this weekend as well as their unblemished NESCAC record have secured them the top seed and hosting rights in the upcoming NESCAC tournament for the first time in their program's history.

Amherst's first goal of the game came with 12 minutes remaining in the first period, when a scramble in front of the net led to a goal by Stephanie Clegg with assists from Anna MacLean and Molly Malloy.

Middlebury held off the Lady Jeffs well

into the second period until Amherst's Tarasai Karega fed the puck to Courtney Hanlon for her 11th goal of the season, making her the highest scorer on the team. Amherst headed into the third period with a 2-0 lead and quickly put the puck in the net with a power-play goal by Kate Dennett with assists from Julia Koch and Lindsay Harrington. This assist gave Harrington an impressive 92 points in her career and 17 on the season.

Five minutes later, Middlebury's Annemarie Cellino '09 almost broke away from the Amherst defense, but heavy pressure prevented her from getting off a good shot and Amherst goalie Krystyn Elek managed to preserve the shutout.

Amherst added another goal with 3:08 left in the third period when Middlebury goaltender

Alexi Bloom '11 made a save on a wraparound but was unable to stop the rebound, which was put in by Kate Dennett for the second power-play goal of the game.

The Lady Jeffs scored one more goal with 35 seconds remaining to earn the decisive 5-0 win over Middlebury.

"Amherst didn't outshoot us by much, we just had trouble finishing and they got lucky a few times," said Lani Wright '10. "The score didn't completely reflect the level of play by both teams. Amherst is really good, but we definitely still have a chance to take this team in the NESCAC tournament."

Middlebury recovered nicely on Sunday with a resounding 7-1 win over Connecticut College, who is currently in seventh place in the NESCAC standings. Middlebury took a 1-0 lead with a goal from Erika Nakamura '09 at 8:58 in the first period and the Panthers never looked back.

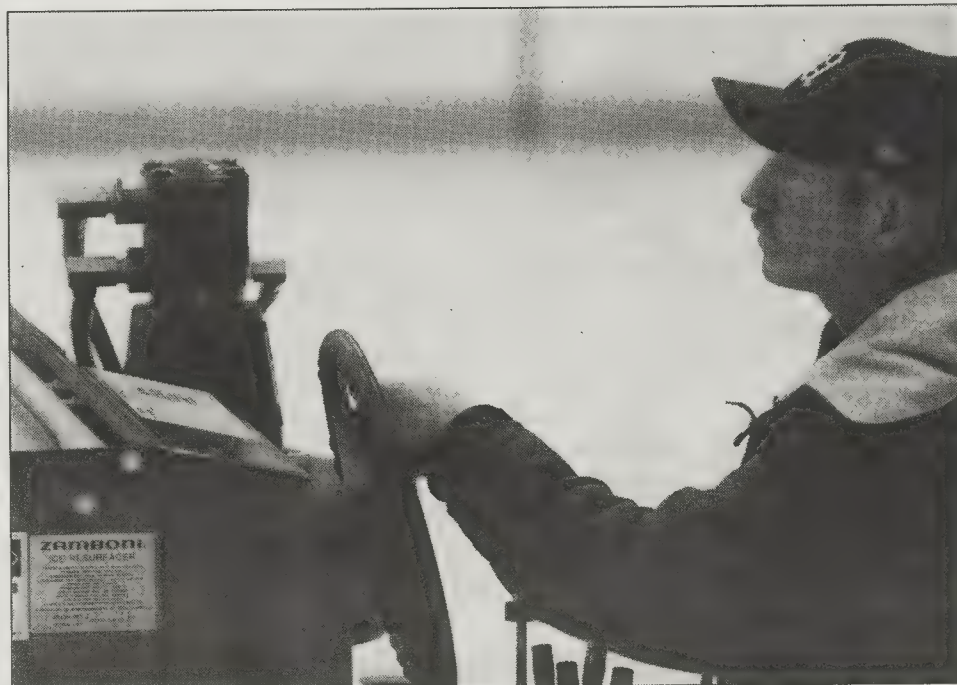
They added two more goals in the opening 4:05 of the second period with a pair of goals by Julia Ireland '11 and Anna McNally '11 to go up 3-0. Ashleigh Kowtoniuk scored the lone Connecticut College goal shortly after with a breakaway to make it 3-1. McNally then scored two more, giving her a second period hat-trick and giving the Panthers a 5-1 lead after two periods.

Andrea Buono '11 and Heather McCormack '10 added two more goals in the third period to make it a 7-1 final.

Other notable performances came from Nora Bergman '11, who tallied two assists in the win, and Grace Waters '12, who had three assists on the afternoon.

Wright had 21 saves to aid the team in the victory, while Connecticut keeper Lauren Mellen was bombarded with 44 shots and made 37 saves.

Middlebury hopes to win its two remaining regular season games against Wesleyan and Hamilton this weekend in order to secure a top seed in the NESCAC tournament.



Mike Bayersdorfer

Atkins arrives at the crack of dawn to prepare the ice for big games at Kenyon arena.



# Panther skiing captures second at Dartmouth

By Martin Breu  
STAFF WRITER

The Middlebury ski teams seem to have found their winning form just in time for the final two carnivals and NCAAs. Dartmouth took top honors on their home courses but the Panthers were just behind in second, with the University of Vermont accompanying them on the podium in third. Both the alpine and nordic teams placed better than they have so far this year to pick up their first carnival honors of the season. The standout performance of the weekend was Simi Hamilton's '09 double victory in both nordic races.

The Dartmouth Carnival started on Feb. 13, with the alpine team contesting a giant slalom race. Men's captain Andrew Wagner '09 was the top Panther finisher just outside of the podium in fourth place. On the women's side, Natasha Woodworth '11 led the women with an eighth-place finish. The Panther women ended the day in fifth place, while the men took fourth. William Ford of UNH and Dartmouth's Courtney Hammond won the men's and women's races, respectively; Hammond has won every carnival GS race this season.

Over on the cross-country skiing trails, the Nordic racers contested a 5- and 10-km

classic race. Hamilton, co-captain of the men's team, took the individual win and was followed closely by Patrick Johnson '11 in fifth, Chase Marston '12 in sixth, Michael Mommsen '10 in seventh and co-captain Tim Reynolds '09 in tenth. With five skiers in the top 10, the Panther men clinched a first-place team score. The women were not slacking off either; they finished second on the day, close behind Dartmouth. Elise Moody-Roberts '12 led the charge with third place, breaking up what would have been a 1-2-3 Dartmouth finish. Robyn Anderson '10 was the next Middlebury finisher in eighth, and Kate Barton '09 just missed the top-ten, landing in 11th place.

Saturday saw the alpine team hit the slopes again, this time for a slalom race. Wagner was the top finisher for the men again with another fourth-place finish. Jake Lund '11, returning to racing after a shoulder injury, landed an impressive 11th place. Woodworth resumed her leadership of the Panther women, finishing fifth, while Mattie Ford '09 finished 10th. The stronger results put the men's team into second place and the women into third.

The nordic skiers were also back to work on Saturday, racing a 10- and 15-km mass-

start freestyle race (a mass-start race has all the racers start together in a large pack, as opposed to the more common interval start where racers are staggered). Hamilton picked up where he left off on Friday and cruised to victory, with Reynolds and Johnson finishing third and sixth, respectively. The Panther women were also strong with Moody-Roberts in fourth and Barton in sixth, but the Dartmouth women dominated the race, taking four of the top five spots. Overall, the Middlebury nordic team

held their team positions from Friday, with the men taking the victory and the women coming in behind Dartmouth for second.

The college race scene continues this weekend here on home courses as the Panthers host the Middlebury Winter Carnival. Friday's events are a giant slalom race for the Alpine team and a 10-km classic mass start race for the nordic team. Saturday will be a slalom race for the alpine team and a 3x5km freestyle relay for the nordic racers.

## Men's basketball set to play Conn. College in quarterfinals

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

"It is an unbelievable feeling to be crowned the NESCAC regular season champions," said Rudin. "It is a true testament to the hard work that the seniors and our team have put in not only this year, but in years past as well."

The Panthers thus enter the playoffs with a surplus of experience and are looking to make major noise in the NESCAC tournament and beyond. With the players clicking

on all cylinders, there's no telling how far they can go.

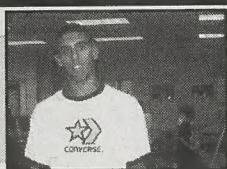
"In order to make an extended run in postseason play, we must continue to play Middlebury basketball," said Rudin. "We do that and we should be okay."

According to Smith, while last year the players were still relative newcomers to postseason action, "Now we know what to expect in terms of the atmosphere and level of play. We know how intense the games are and we're ready. It's going to be a fun ride."

PANTHER SCOREBOARD				
Date	Sport	Vs.	Results	Comments
2/13 2/14	Men's Basketball	Trinity Amherst	78-76 W (2OT) 71-64 L	Double-overtime thriller against the Bantams beefed up the Panthers' acclaim, but the men fell to perennial powerhouse Amherst.
2/14 2/15	Women's Squash	George Washington Bates	8-1 W 6-3 W	Despite a first-round loss to Bowdoin in the Kurtz Cup, women's squash finishes at an impressive 13th-place at team nationals.
2/14 2/15	Women's Hockey	Amherst Conn. College	5-0 L 7-1 W	Women fall hard on the road to Amherst, who secure home ice for NESCACs. Huge win against Conn. College.
2/13 2/14	Women's Basketball	Trinity Amherst	65-54 W 71-49 L	An impressive win for the women's squad against Trinity but the season ends on a sour note with a big loss to the Lady Jeffs.
2/13 2/14	Men's Hockey	Babson UMass.-Boston	3-2 W 3-2 L (OT)	Men's hockey edges past Babson at home but falls to UMass.-Boston in overtime despite a dominating performance in regulation.

BY THE NUMBERS	
8	Rank of the Middlebury men's basketball team's field goal percentage among NESCAC teams.
1	Rank of the Middlebury men's basketball team's field goal percentage defense among NESCAC teams.
112	Career point total for senior hockey player Jamie McKenna.
7	Number of players on the women's basketball team who held the title of highest scorer in a game this season.
1	Place that men's basketball finished in the NESCAC, the first time that has happened in school history.

## Editors' Picks



Questions	Jeff Klein	Kevin Carpenter	Emma Gardner	Brian Swartz, Alpine Skiing
Who will be the leading assist man when the men's basketball team plays host to Conn. College in a NESCAC quarterfinal match-up on Sat.?	TIM EDWARDS Averaging a tenth of an assist less than Rudin, but I think he'll be dishing all over the court and setting up the shooters on Saturday.	BEN RUDIN Edwards may take it if they put pressure on Rudin but I have to give it to the guy. He's been leading in assists down the stretch.	TIM EDWARDS I have to agree with Jeff, just because it seems that he did so much research, and his average is less bad than mine.	BEN RUDIN I've watched him dish out assists for over a decade.
Who will be the leading assist man this weekend when the men's hockey team travels to Amherst and Hamilton?	KEN SUCHOSKI Just because I feel like everyone else will say McKenna and I want to make up ground.	MARTIN DROLET First-year phenom has been on his game lately. I expect him to drop mad assists on the Lord Jeffs.	KEN SUCHOSKI I'm not cheating off of Jeff's answers, I swear, but he has been racking up the assists lately.	JAMIE MCKENNA He's averaging nearly one a day. Hard to bet on anyone else.
Who will be the leading assist woman this weekend when the women's hockey team hosts Wesleyan and Hamilton?	ANNMARIE CELLINO She had three assists the last time Middlebury played Wesleyan.	MOLLY VITT Help me preserve my over-.500 record, Molly. Rack up some points for me.	ANNMARIE CELLINO Suck it, Jeff!	MOLLY VITT Why not?
Who wins between NBA Texas rivals Houston Rockets and Dallas Mavericks on Friday night?	MAVERICKS Dirk is nasty. T-Mac is washed up.	MAVERICKS Mavs have lost some status in the league recently but Dirk is a big-time player and support from Terry and Howard will help.	MAVERICKS What?	ROCKETS The Cowboy suck so the Mavericks probably do too.
Who will be in first place in the NHL Western Conference at the end of Sunday's games?	SAN JOSE SHARKS It's either them or Detroit, and San Jose's a cooler city. Plus the Sharks are the only pro sports team in S.J., so I'll give them some respect.	DETROIT RED WINGS Even I know better than to bet against Chris Chelios.	DETROIT RED WINGS Kevin says they have an easy schedule, and this way I have proof I'm not (just) copying Jeff.	CALGARY FLAMES Calgary's in Canada. Easy.
<b>Career Record</b>	<b>53-63 (.457)</b>	<b>8-7 (.533)</b>	<b>24-30 (.444)</b>	<b>4-11 (.267)</b>



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# Men top Babson but fall to UMass

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

good job of forcing the Panther forwards to the outside, but the hosts still managed several good scoring chances, as they out-shot the Beacons 39-18 on the night.

"To tell you the truth, I was more frustrated with the way we played on Friday [rather than Saturday]," said Beaney. "It is the nature of the game that sometimes the team that gets the most chances doesn't always win."

The most impressive element of Middlebury's performance on Saturday was the power-play. The Panthers did a great job of moving the puck quickly in order to create confusion and mismatches.

With the score tied at one midway through the first period, the Panther power-play used some nice passing from Chazz Svoboda '11 and Michael Kretschmer '11 to create some room for Mason Graddock '09 down low. The senior scored his second goal of the day, senior day, by

stepping around a UMass defenseman and lifting the puck into the top of the net from just inside the right face-off dot.

Unfortunately the Panthers were unable to protect the lead, as they continued to give up odd-man rushes. Doug Raeder '09 made several point-blank saves during the game, the most impressive of which was a sliding save on a Beacon two-on-one in the first period. His stellar play was not enough to win, but the effort does provide the Panthers with some comfort knowing they enter the most important weekend of their regular season with two of the top goaltenders in the league in Raeder and John Yanchev '12.

In order to beat a team like Amherst, the Panthers know they need to cut down on the odd-man rushes.

"We gave [some odd-man rushes] up because of breakdowns in our defensive shape," said Graddock, "they took advantage of it."

"It concerns me that we're not making the right decisions," added Beaney, who was also

concerned that his three defensemen were getting too flat in the offensive zone — something he promised the Panthers were going to work on in practice this week.

Despite the losses, the Panthers realize that they have the talent level to realize their lofty expectations.

"We can play with any team in the country," said Beaney. "What is important for us is to come together with an understanding of what it is going to take moving forward."

## Saldanha '11 gives soaring track showing

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

'11, Grace Close '11, Rebecca Fanning '12 and Julia Sisson '12 improved its time by 5 seconds, winning the race in 4:08 minutes.

It has practically become an expectation that at the end of the day, the Panthers will come out on top in this event. The times have shown steady improvement with each meet, and these girls showed grit and determination last weekend, pulling out a win by less than a second against a tough Springfield College team.

The men's 4x400 relay team joined the women in victory this weekend with a time of 3:31. Ben Fowler '09, Addison Godine '11, Jason Mooty '12 and Jason Jan '12 came together to beat Tufts, Bates and Colby, among other non-NESCAC schools. Just as it was with the women, the finish was a tight one as the Jumbos came in less than a second behind the Panthers.

"The men's 4x400 looked really strong," said Gordon. "They were the biggest thing to take away from the meet."

While the relays were putting together solid performances in the middle distance, they did not overshadow a number of notable individual performances. Kaitlynn Saldanha '11 set a new school record in the 600m run and took first place with a time of 1:38. The men swept the same event, with Godine taking first at 1:26, Fowler coming in just behind him with the same time and Mooty following at 1:28. Christina Kunycky '11 won the women's 800m run at 2:23. The Panthers also shone in the women's mile, with Erin Toner '11 and Jessi Stevens '12 capturing first and second place at 5:26 and 5:27 respectively.

From here, the team begins to shift its focus to the spring season. Next weekend, those who qualified for Division-III New England's will go back to MIT to compete. Following New England, part of the team will travel to the open New England Championships at Boston University, potentially competing as well in the ECAC Championships at Tufts.



Laurice Fox

Ashley Barron '09 prepares to launch a three against the Lady Jeffs in Saturday's game at home.

## Postseason eludes Panthers

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

The win for Middlebury gave them a chance at a playoff spot, but a victory against a tough Amherst team was necessary for the Panthers to make it into the postseason.

Despite being underdogs in Saturday's game, Middlebury came out strong and managed to stay within five points with 5:21 left in the first half. From there the Lord Jeffs showed that they deserved their impressive 23-1 overall record by taking a 35-18 lead at the half.

With the end of their season in sight, the Panthers battled throughout the rest of the game and scored 31 points to the Jeffs' 36 in the second half. Despite a strong showing in the second half, the 17-point halftime deficit proved to be too much for the Panthers to overcome.

"Amherst is a very good team," said Johnson. "They worked the ball inside out extremely well and made it very difficult for us defensively. I think we did a better job in the second half of being patient with our offense and we were more effective at getting the ball inside and getting to the foul line."

Lauren Sanchez had another great performance with 19 points to lead Middlebury. Co-captain Ashley Barron '09 finished her career with a total of 752 points. Emily Johnson also finished her career on Saturday, adding nine points in the game and ending her career with 977 points.

"The loss obviously put an end to our season," added Johnson, "but the exciting win the night before made my senior weekend very special."

## The Middlebury Great Eight

Rank	2/12	Team	Carpenter's Comments
1	1	Men's b-ball (21-3)	Despite the end of the men's 17-game winning streak, the Panthers preserve home court for the NESCAC tournament for the first time in history.
2	4	Skiing	Impressive second-place showing at Dartmouth. They escaped from fourth place so I expect nothing less than first at Middlebury's Winter Carnival.
3	3	Women's Hockey (12-2-4)	Women get trounced in a 5-0 loss to Amherst. At least we can hope for a weekend of destruction against Wesleyan and Hamilton.
4	2	Men's Hockey (15-4-1)	Losing to a Boston team is acceptable ... as long as they are a Beanpot team. But I have the utmost faith in the Panthers' success in upcoming NESCAC matches.
5	8	Indoor Track & Field	I want to see some team points totals. I can knock a team for their performance but I cannot hate on individuals. Give me some fodder!
6	5	Squash (M: 12-10) (W: 19-8)	Women go 2-1 at the Kurtz Cup, capping off a successful season for the team before individual nationals.
7	6	Swimming & Diving	Week off for the squad. I could omit the team from this week's list but I will give them the seventh spot as not to tarnish their confidence before NESCACs.
8	—	Women's b-ball (8-15)	Women drop eight of their last 10 games. On the bright side, there is always next year?



Laurice Fox

Ben Rudin '09 scored a career high 29 points against Amherst this past Saturday.

## sportsbriefs

### Women's squash dazzles

The women's squash team competed in team nationals at Harvard last weekend. A record of 2-1 in the "B" flight resulted in an impressive 13th place finish for the Panthers. The rank marks the highest national ranking for the squad in the past 10 years, and the 19 wins sets a new school record.

A 6-3 loss against Bowdoin in the first game of the Kurtz Cup dashed the Panthers' hopes at a ninth-place finish. Wins against George Washington and Bates, however, sealed the 13th place finish.

Many individual achievements were also realized at the end of the tournament. Liz McMorris '10 finishes her season with a record of 21-5, amounting to the most wins by a single player in any season at Middlebury. First-years Jamie Burchfield and Alexandra Boillot accrued an astounding 20 wins on the season. Senior tri-captain Sarah Hatfield earned a total of 16 wins as the #1 singles player in her career at Middlebury, setting the school record for most by a #1 player.

— Kevin Carpenter, Sports Editor

### Middlebury's annual Winter Carnival set to commence

While students will spend this Friday engaging in all manner of wintry activities in lieu of usual classes as they kick off Middlebury's 86th Winter Carnival, the original hosts of the carnival — that is, the nordic and alpine ski teams — are getting ready to compete against some of the top skiers in the country.

The Carnival officially opens with the men's slalom race on Friday morning, followed immediately by the women's slalom. Co-captain Andrew Wagner '09 promises to light up the slopes and give powerhouses UNH, Dartmouth and UVM a run for their money this weekend, as he captured first place in the men's giant slalom run at last year's Carnival. On the women's side, look for standout performances from co-captains Mattie Ford '09 and Tucker Burton '09, as well as from Natasha Woodworth '11, whose recent results indicate an exciting weekend ahead.

The nordic races also begin on Friday morning as the men's squad vies for the top spots in the 10K Classic, lead by co-captains Simeon Hamilton '09 and Tim Reynolds '09 along with rising star Chase Marston '12. As for the nordic women, first-year phenom Elise Moody-Roberts '12 will likely put forth a stellar performance alongside key teammate Robyn Anderson '09.

The races continue all day Friday and Saturday, so be sure to head out to Rikert and the Snow Bowl to pay homage to the reason we get a day off from school, and to witness the hard work that Middlebury's oldest Division-I teams have accomplished this season.

— Emma Gardner, Sports Editor

### Aaron Smith '09 awarded with academic all-American honors

At Middlebury, we often hear the refrain about how varsity athletes at the school are true student-athletes, or perhaps more accurately, athlete-students. Aaron Smith '09 provides concrete evidence for that claim.

The senior men's basketball player was recently named a District I Second Team Academic All-American by the College Sports Information Directors Association.

Smith is a film and media culture major who boasts a 3.69 GPA at the College. Last year, he also earned the distinction of being an All-NESCAC Academic selection.

Smith's prowess on the basketball court is evident as well, as he currently leads the men's basketball team and ranks fourth in the NESCAC with 7.3 rebounds per game. He has played an integral part in elevating the team to elite status in Division III basketball.

Smith and the Panthers will face Conn. College in a NESCAC quarterfinal game this Saturday, Feb. 21 at 3 p.m.

— Jeff Klein, Sports Editor



## Panthers suffer overtime defeat

By Peter Baumann  
OPINIONS EDITOR

With a crucial NESCAC weekend looming on the schedule, the talented Middlebury men's hockey team received a proverbial wake-up call this weekend, squeaking by Babson 3-2 on Friday, Feb. 13 before falling to

UMass-Boston by the same score on Saturday, Feb. 14. The games resulted in a virtual heat atop the NESCAC standings with the Panthers trailing the Amherst Lord Jeffs by two points. The winner of their tilt on Friday, Feb. 19 will most likely earn home-ice advantage for the entirety of the NES-

CAC playoffs.

During both of this past weekend's contests, the Panthers were at times muscled around by their more physical opponents. Against Babson Middlebury was consistently slow to chase pucks in the corners, seemingly scared off by the physical play of the Beavers.

On Saturday, while the Panthers did a better job of moving their feet down low, they fell victim to several open-ice checks in transition. This limited the effect of the normally potent Panther transition game as Middlebury seemed loath to attack the neutral zone with their normal speed.

"If you're not willing to battle for pucks down low, you're not going to score goals," said coach Bill Beaney when asked about the effect of his opponents' physical play. "But if you keep moving your feet, it is not going to have an effect."

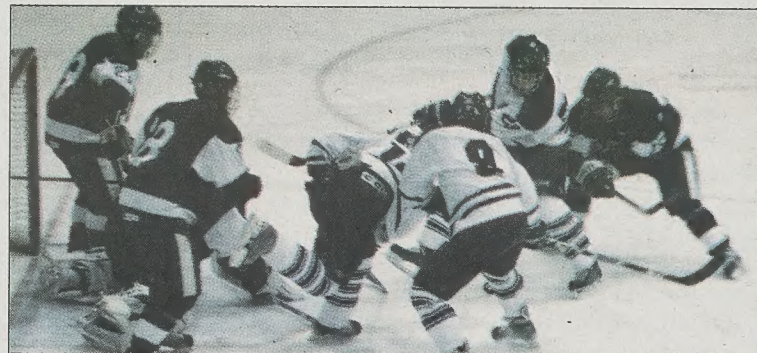
Despite the physicality, the UMass game in particular allowed spectators a glimpse of the talent on the Middlebury roster. UMass did a

SEE MEN, PAGE 23



Molly Dwyer

Mack Cummins '09 looks to pass the puck to teammate Jack Kinder '09.



Molly Dwyer

Panthers close in on the Babson goal to put Middlebury ahead on Saturday.

## Middle distance track squads go all the way

By James Schwerdtman  
STAFF WRITER

MIT hosted the final meet of the indoor season for the Panthers and the team continued to look strong against the rest of the NESCAC. It has been a long winter of preparation for the outdoor season, and the squad seems to be peaking at exactly the right time.

"The team is really strong right now," said Doug Mackey '11. "We're really rallying around each other on both the men's and women's sides."

Phil Gordon '11 shared in Mackey's optimism, adding that "the team looked really good at MIT. We had a lot of great performances across the board."

Both the runners' chemistry and their times have been getting more and more impressive since the Dartmouth Relays in January. Once again, it was the 400-meter relay teams that put together some of the most crucial performances. The women's 4 x 400 relay team, consisting of Katy Magill

SEE SALDANHA '11, PAGE 23

## Women's basketball ends facing Amherst

By Brian Sirkia  
STAFF WRITER

The Middlebury women's basketball team saw their post-season hopes come to an end after splitting the weekend's games. The team hosted Trinity and Amherst on Friday, Feb. 13 and Saturday, Feb. 14, respectively. The squad wound up coming away with a 65-54 win against Trinity and a 71-49 loss against Amherst. Middlebury finishes their season with a record of 8-15 overall and 2-7 in NESCAC play.

The Friday night contest was a big win for the Middlebury

women as they managed to keep their playoff hopes alive. Trinity started strong with a 10-2 lead, but the Panthers replied with a 10-2 run of their own, led by Elissa Goeke '12 and co-captain Emily Johnson '09, who each had five points during the spurt. The Panthers maintained this momentum and finished the half with a 31-21 lead.

The second half was characterized by Middlebury dominance, as the Panthers maintained the lead throughout the remainder of the game, not allowing Trinity to draw closer than nine points. They flexed their defensive muscle by holding Trinity to 27-percent shooting and dominating the defensive glass 35-22. They also had a solid night from the free throw line, going 7-9 in the final minutes to clinch the 11-point win.

Lauren Sanchez '11 led the way for the Panthers with a career-high 20 points, team-high nine rebounds, and by going 12-13 from the line. Johnson also had a strong performance with 18 points and Kaitlyn Fallon '10 tallied 11. Trinity's leaders were juniors Claire Arnstein with 14 points and Christine Card with 14 points and a game-high 13 rebounds.

SEE POSTSEASON, PAGE 23



Laurice Fox

Sanchez scans the court vs. Amherst.

## The art of the zamboni master

By Kevin Carpenter  
SPORTS EDITOR

During the lull between periods at an ice hockey match at Middlebury's Kenyon Arena, a murmur can be heard among the crowd as the zamboni cruises by. Spectators have heard countless remarks from those yearning to take a ride on the massive mechanic monster. But the lucky men who get to man the zamboni, Butch Atkins and Stan Pratt, can attest to the craft needed to operate the machine effectively.

Atkins' role in the management of the rink started in 1981 when he took on a job in the equipment room during his rehabilitation following a knee surgery. Soon after that start, Atkins stepped up to manage the rink and improve the efficiency of the maintenance.

"At the time, the rink had problems," said Atkins. "A staff of eight to 10 people was working on the rink and the process lacked consistency and fluidness. I only wanted one other person working with me." Stan Pratt and Atkins helped him take the reins.

Atkins started driving the zamboni in 1981 and now, 28 years later, he has upgraded from his original model. The zamboni used on the ice is a Model 552. A 77-inch blade is mounted underneath the body of the zamboni, which contains a 195-gallon hot water tank and 85-gallon pre-wash tank. The machine is crucial to the upkeep of the rink and ice quality.

"The ice is probably our foremost responsibility," said Atkins. "It's our job to make sure the ice is ready to go every time."

The Model 552 runs on a high-performance electric battery. "The

model can perform seven ice resurfaces on a single charge," said Atkins. And just like a gauge on an automobile's dashboard, a monitor indicates the amount of juice left in the battery charge.

To the unsuspecting eye, the zamboni is merely a fancy and expensive device. But the zamboni plays a crucial role in maintaining a playable surface for the ice hockey teams. Without the zamboni to groom the ice between periods, the fluidity of play would be greatly affected. Snow would pile up near the

crease and the benches; more ruts would form and inhibit normal passes and the movement of the puck and the ice would be riddled with cracks and fissures that threaten the safety of the players.

The 77-inch blade in the front of the zamboni, controlled by a crank, shaves a thin layer of ice from the surface. The amount of ice shaven varies in particular spots. When Atkins loops around the ends of the rink, he lifts the blade, as keeping the blade lowered would shave too much ice off the surface.



Mike Bayersdorfer

Zamboni driver Butch Atkins explains the science behind the machine.

The shaven ice is then collected by a series of augers and propelled into a snow collection tank located on the front of the vehicle.

Next, a prewash is dispensed to rinse the ice and help fill in the deeper ruts from skate marks. The excess water is subsequently collected by squeegees, filtered and returned to the tank. The water dispensed from the back of the zamboni is heated to approximately 140°F and aids in the resurfacing of the ice.

The glistening shine and soothing patterns that the zamboni leaves in its track is the product of efficient driving. "All drivers have

a different style," said Atkins. "The key is to control the dispensing of water and keep the ice at the right thickness levels, which vary at different points in the ice."

"The key to driving is to finish with the least amount of passes and getting off the ice quickly," he continued. "If I can get off with four minutes left in the period, that means four minutes that the ice can refreeze."

In terms of daily maintenance of the zamboni, Atkins maintained that it is fairly simple and involves "daily greasing, checking batteries

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### this week in sports

**Men's Basketball**  
Men's team splits games with Trinity and Amherst, will host NESCAC tournament, page 20.



**games to watch**  
Men's basketball vs. Conn. College, Feb. 21 at 3 p.m.  
Middlebury Winter Carnival, Feb. 20 and 21.



**Alpine and Nordic Skiing**  
Turn inside to read about the team's second place finish at Dartmouth, page 21.